

# Edmund Brumfitt Rare Books Ltd

## List 1 -2023



Rear cover image from item 23. [LAW]. *Ex jure civili*.

Inside covers from item 35 PAULIAN. *Dictionnaire des nouvelles découvertes faites en physique*

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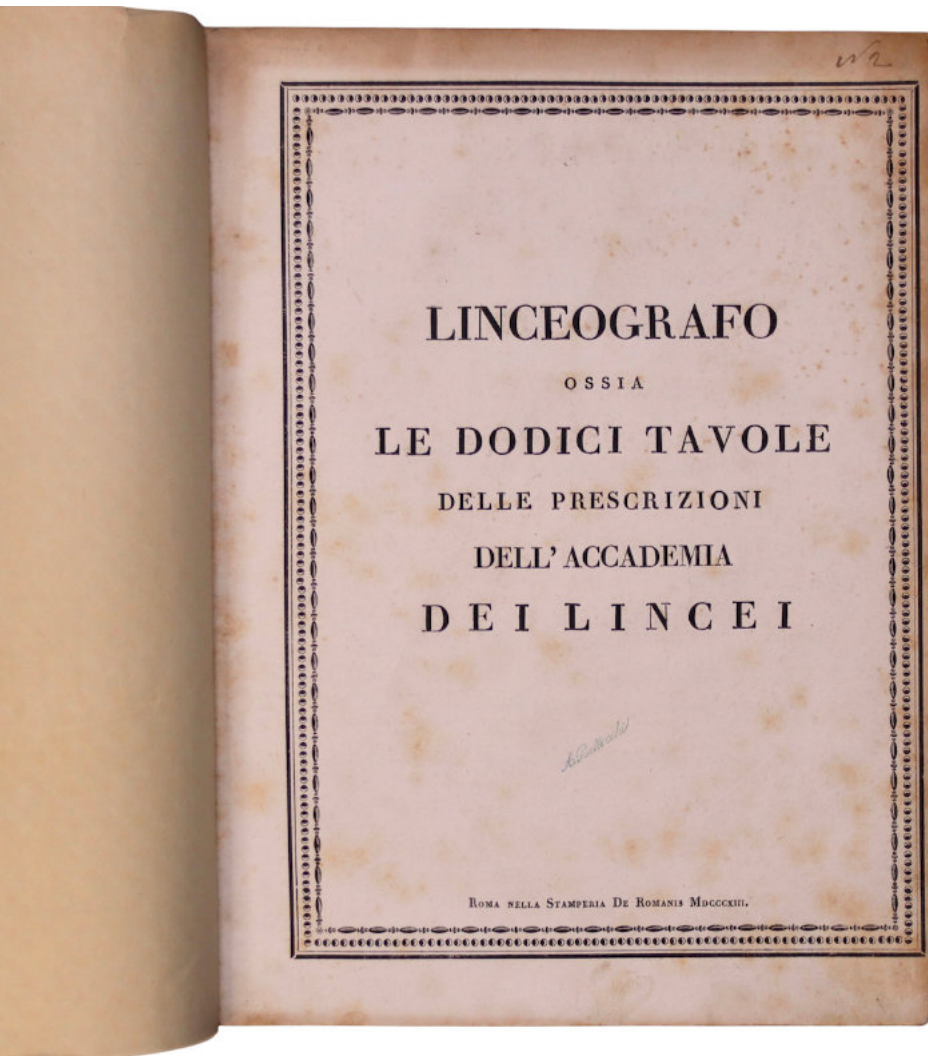
## Reviving an academy

1. [ACCADEMIA DEI LINCEI]. LINCEOGRAFO ossia le dodici tavole delle prescrizioni dell'Accademia dei Lincei. Roma: nella Stamperia de Romanis, MDCCCXIII [1813]. £425

FIRST EDITION. 4to, ff. [16]; printed on rectos only; text within double border; some foxing throughout, heavier in places; in later patterned wrappers.

First edition, rare, of this statement of the aims and organisation of the newly reestablished Accademia dei Lincei.

The original Academy, founded in 1603, was for a short time of the most prestigious European scientific institutions, famously counting Galileo among its members, but did not survive long after the death in 1630 of its founder, Federico Cesi. It was then revived in 1801, initially under the name of the Accademia Caetani, under the patronage of the Italian nobleman Francesco Caetani (1738-1810), and it is this revival whose regulations are set out in the present work.



The *Linceografo* consists of twelve *tavole*, each taking up the recto of a single leaf, and divided into two sections, dealing in turn with the institutions of the academy and with its organisation. They cover the purpose of the academy, the number (and quality) of members, the academic committee, the work of the academy, the role of corresponding members of other academies, prizes and honours given by the academy, and the election of members and officers; the second part then describes the roles of the various officers, the financial administration of the academy, the form of public meetings, and the publication of the acts of the *Lincei*.

It is clear from the first *tavola* that the new academy's purpose went beyond the narrow confines of scientific research, but had a social and political purpose (remembering that Rome was at the time under the rule of Napoleon). It states:

I. The Accademia dei Lincei, re-established in Rome in the footsteps of the ancient academy of the same name, established by the immortal Federico Cesi, proposes, in the same way, the great aim of the propagation and progress of the sciences.

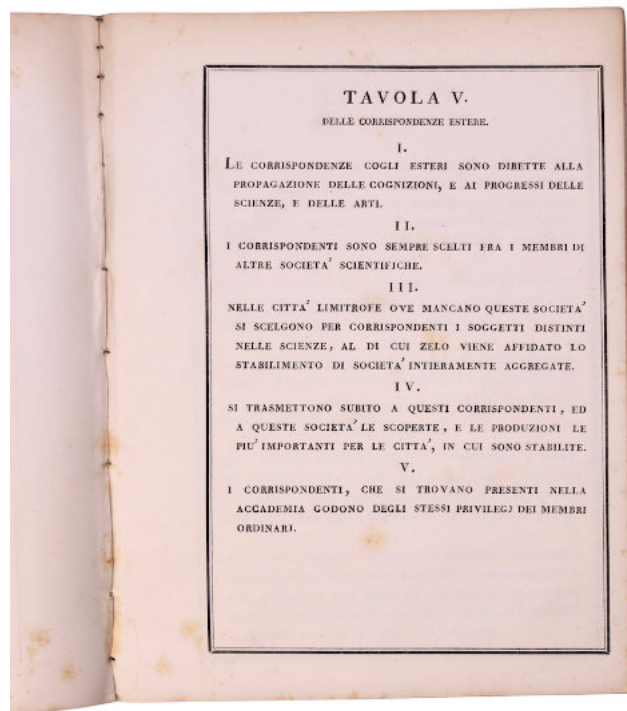
II. The studies and productions of the Lincei revolve around the mathematical, physical, and natural sciences, and all the arts that depend on them.

III. The knowledge which they acquire is communicated to the scholarly youth in order to awaken in them the taste for the sciences, and prepare them for the public good; and the fruits which they reap from their studies are dedicated for the benefit of those who can benefit from them in the arts.

IV. The Academy meets the government's demands on subjects related to its purpose.

V. The primary purpose of the Academy is the good of society, and national honour.

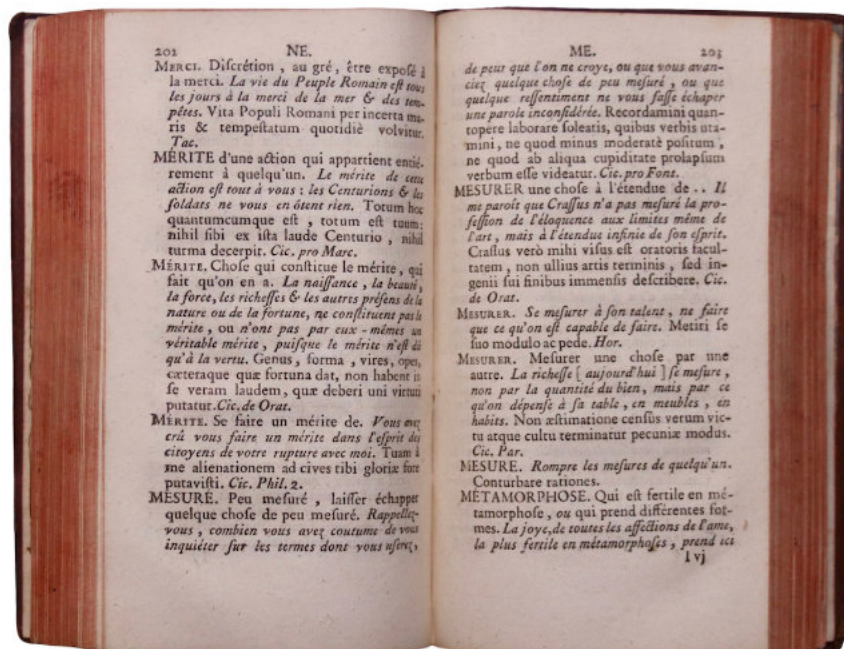
*OCLC records copies at the Burndy Library, the Musée d'histoire naturelle in Paris, and the American Philosophical Society.*



## How to use words

2. [ALLETZ, PONS AUGUSTIN]. PETIT TRÉSOR DE LA BELLE LATINITÉ. Puisé dans les meilleurs Auteurs, ou Recueil de diverses façons de parler de la Langue François, suivies du tour Latin qui leur répond: le tout par order alphabétique, pour aider les jeunes gens dans les compositions de François et Latin. Ouvrage Approuvé par plusieurs Professeurs de l'Université. A Paris: Chez Paul-Denis Bracas, MDCCLV [1755]. £250

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. [ii], vi, 386, [2] privilege du roi; woodcut vignette on title; tears to bottom corners of a couple of leaves, not affecting text, and small diagonal cut to title-page with no loss; aside from occasional light spotting, clean and fresh throughout, with contemporary ownership signature of François Vyonin (?) on title-page; in contemporary sheep, spine gilt in compartments with raised bands and morocco lettering-piece; some wear to boards and extremities, but sound.



Attributed by the BnF to the prolific author, agronomist, and historian Pons- Augustin Alletz (1703-1785), this charming work aims to offer the student of Latin (and indeed the budding writer in French) the building blocks with which to write idiomatically. In the very broadest sense a French-Latin dictionary, the *Petit trésor* attempts to avoid the dryness that the form usually involves, by arranging its contents as follows: French words are listed alphabetically; a definition is offered, and then, in French and then Latin, a sentence (or more) in which the word is found, with the French a translation from the Latin, taken from Cicero, Livy, Virgil, Horace, and others. For example:

PERDRE. (Parlant d'un sentiment, d'une qualité). *J'ai perdu cette gayeté & cet enjouement qui vous plaisent plus qu'à personne.* Hilaritas illa nostra & suavitas quae praeter caeteros delectabat, erepta mihi omnis est. *Cic. Ep. fam.*

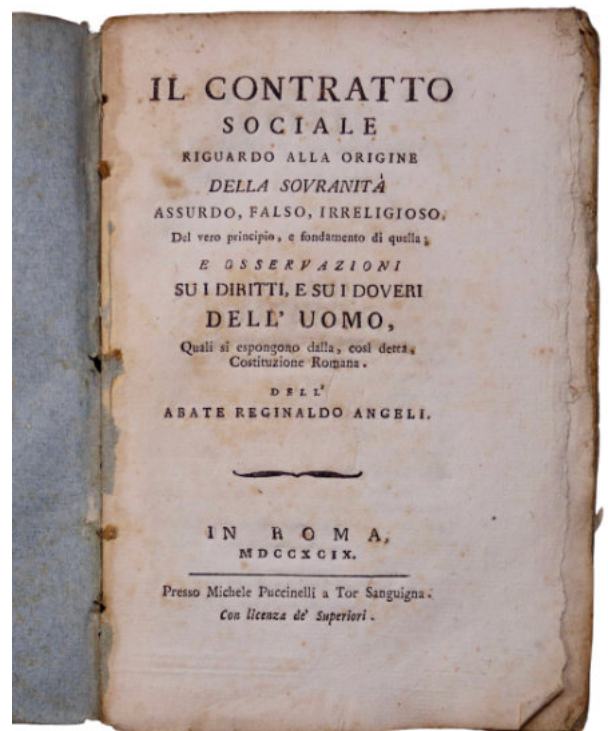
*Outside France, OCLC records copies at Montréal, Victoria, and McGill in Canada, plus Pennsylvania and the national libraries of Spain and Sweden; not in LibraryHub.*

### Against the social contract

**3. ANGELI, REGINALDO. IL CONTRATTO SOCIALE** riguarda alla origine della sovranità assurdo, falso, irreligioso. Del vero principio, e fondamento di quella; e osservazioni su i diritti, e su i doveri dell'uomo, quali si espongono dalla, così detta, Costituzione Romana. In Roma: Presso Michelli Puccinelli, MDCCXCIX [1799]. £400

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. viii, 118, [1] imprimatur, [1] blank; some spotting and foxing in places, but largely clean and fresh; uncut in contemporary interim wrappers; spine worn and chipped at foot, and wrappers marked and worn, but sound.

First edition, uncommon, of this attack on the social contract theories of Rousseau and others by the Roman lawyer and priest Reginaldo Angeli (died c.1825).



Angeli, dedicating his work to the 'amici della buona causa', identifies two aspects of the social contract he addresses: one in which people relinquish some of their rights in order to establish a common purpose; and one where the bulk of power is transferred from the people to their representatives. While he concedes that both of these notions may have superficial appeal, Angeli argues that they result from a misunderstanding of human nature and freedom; he argues against the notion that freedom and equality are inalienable rights, central to the projects of the modern state-builders, observing the fatal consequences of these beliefs all too obvious in the aftermath of the French Revolution, but also the fact that it is contrary not only to the views of ancient philosophers but also to those of the majority of the people. He goes on to attack the views of Spedalieri in setting out his own account of the origins and basis of sovereignty.

Angeli was to return to some of these themes in *I doveri de' cittadini verso la patria*, published shortly before his death in 1824; these two works appear to be his only publications.

*OCLC only two copies outside Italy, at UCLA and the BnF.*

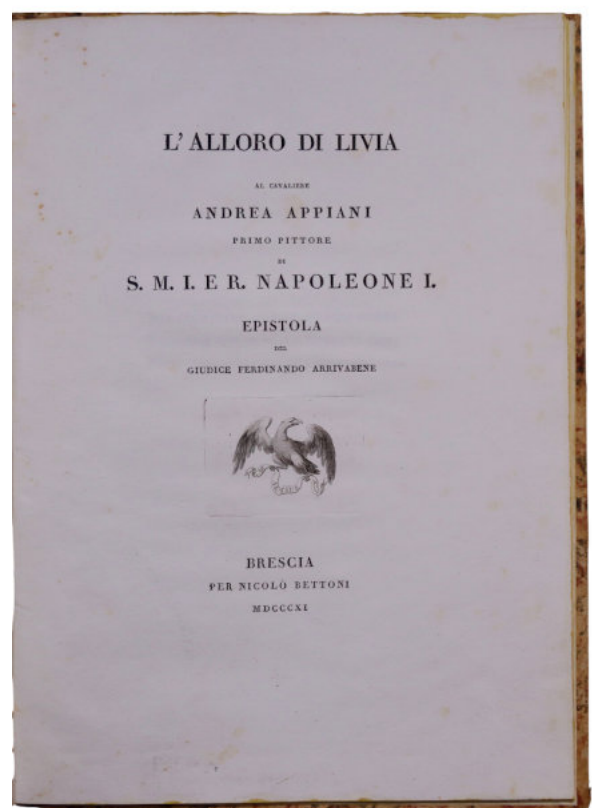
### To Napoleon's favourite painter

4. **ARRIVABENE, FERDINANDO.** L'ALLORO DI LIVIA al cavaliere Andrea Appiani primo pittore di S.M.I.E.R. Napoleone I. Epistola. Brescia: per Nicolò Bettoni, MDCCCVI [1811]. £600

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. xvi; engraved vignette on title-page; a clean, wide-margined copy in contemporary mottled paste-paper boards; a few marks on upper board, but still very good.

A lovely copy of this very rare poem, drawing on the story of Livia Augusta, wife of Caesar Augustus, addressed to the neoclassical painter Andrea Appiani (1754-1817), perhaps Napoleon's favourite painter, and court artist to the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy.

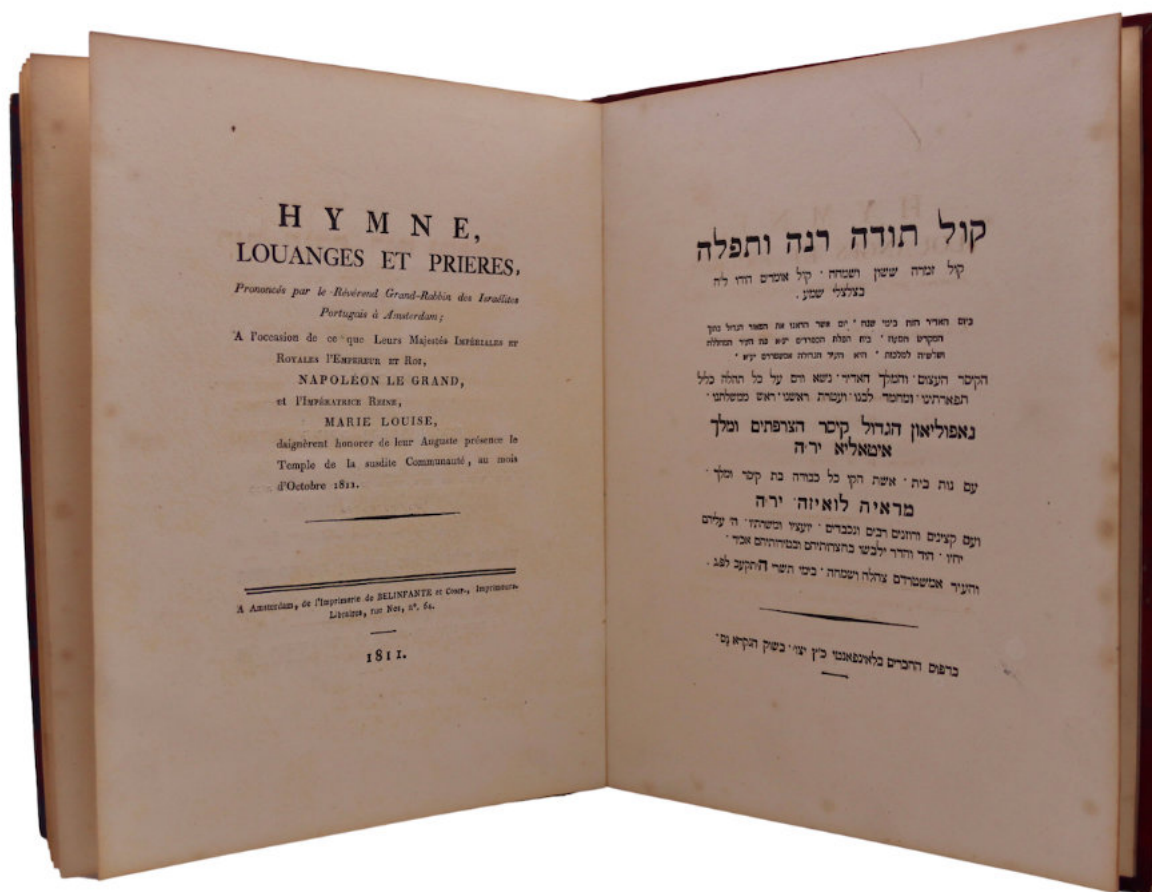
The poet, Ferdinando Arrivabene (1770-1834) was a lawyer and historian, who at the time of writing was a judge in Brescia. His first literary work was written while a political prisoner in Šibenik in Dalmatia in 1800; his song 'La tomba di Sebenico ossia la Prigionia dei Patrioti Cisalpini', lamenting his unjust imprisonment, became popular among those resisting Habsburg rule. In later life he devoted himself almost entirely to literary scholarship, publishing two works on Dante and his circle in the 1820s, and embarking on a large work on the iconography of Italy, left unfinished at his death. He was a long-term friend and correspondent of Ugo Foscolo.



*Not in OCLC; SBN records copies at the Episcopal Library of Bedonia, the Biblioteca comunale Teresiana in Mantua and the University of Turin.*

### Napoleon visits an Amsterdam synagogue

5. [AZEVEDO, DANIEL COHEN D']. HYMNE, LOUANGES ET PRIERES, Prononcés par le Révérend Grand-Rabbin des Israélites Portugais à Amsterdam; A l'occasion de ce que Leurs Majestés Impériales et Royales i'Empereur et Roi, Napoléon le Grand, et l'Impératrice Reine, Marie Louise, daignèrent honorer de leur Auguste présence le Tempe de la susdite Communauté, au mois d'Octobre 1811. A Amsterdam: de l'imprimerie de Belinfante et Comp., 1811. £1850

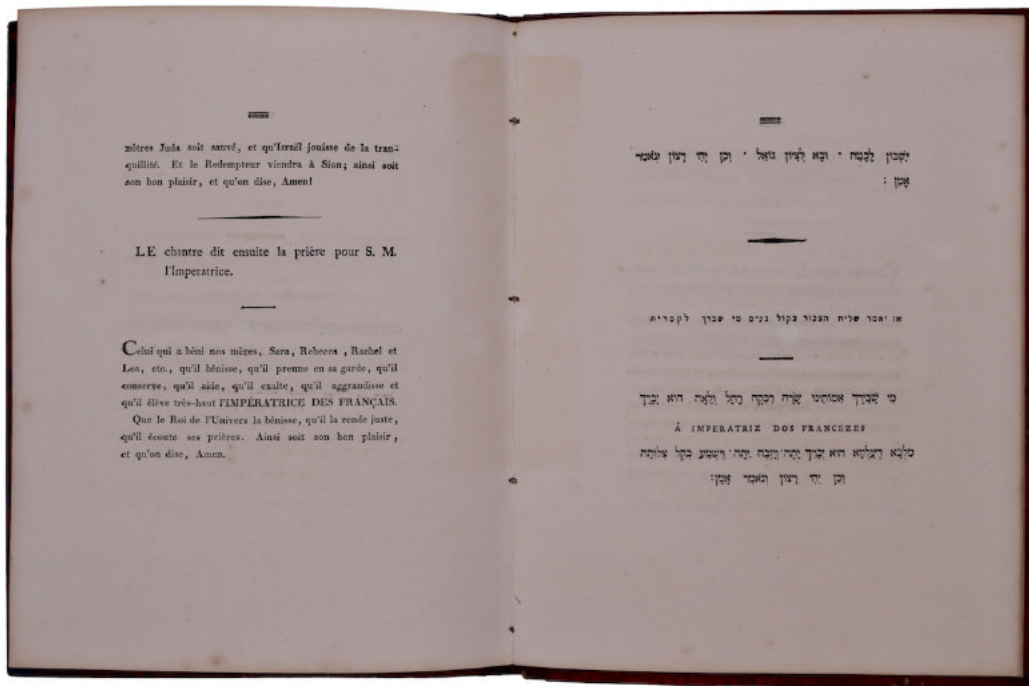


FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. [1] blank, [22], [1] blank; rectos printed in Hebrew, versos in French; occasional spotting and marginal dustsoiling but otherwise fresh; in contemporary red boards, covers with decorative gilt border, spine ruled in gilt; small hole in lower corner of upper cover, darkening to edges, and light wear to extremities, but still an attractive copy.

Only edition of this publication marking the visit of Napoleon to the Portuguese Synagogue in Amsterdam during his visit to the Netherlands in September and October 1811.

Napoleon arrived in Amsterdam on October 9th, entering the city on horseback and greeted by enthusiastic crowds, as shown in van Bree's painting *De intocht van Napoleon te Amsterdam, 9 oktober 1811*, now in the Rijksmuseum. The Netherlands had been incorporated into the French Empire as *départments* earlier that year, and Napoleon was in the middle of a month-long tour; he and Marie Louise stayed in Amsterdam for two weeks, and during this time they visited both the Ashkenazi and the Sephardic synagogues in the city. The present volume contains the hymns and prayers recited at the latter. Printed in parallel Hebrew and French, the volume opens with the *Beatus venit* (verses from Psalm 118), then a prayer for the sovereign (after music 'composée d'un orchestre nombreux'), a prayer for the empress, and a prayer for the six-month-old Napoleon II. The service concluded with the cantor singing the *Te Deum*.

There is little doubt about the esteem in which Napoleon was (or expected to be) held: the chief rabbi introduces his final prayers with "This happy and famous day, announced so long ago, has finally arrived! What glory for you, o holy Temple! Lift up your heads, you ancient gates, and you, proud porticos, allow free passage! For here is the great, powerful, magnanimous EMPEROR and KING, he whose reign is lit up like the moon in its conjunction, or like the

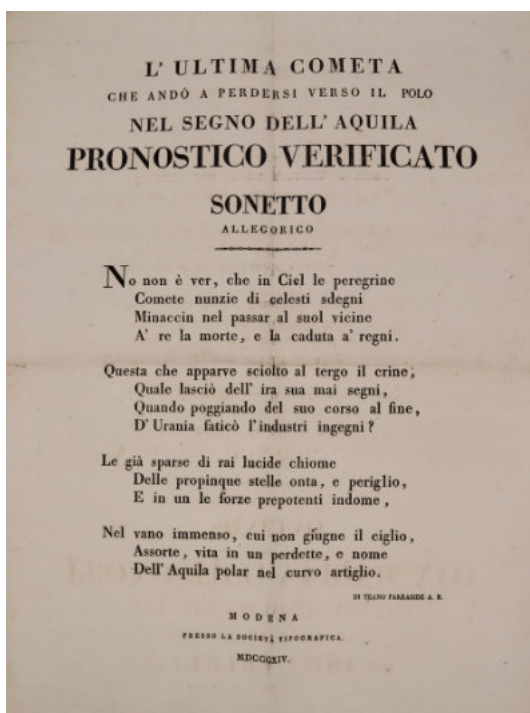


strongest summer sun; he, finally who we have wanted with such impatience to have within our walls”.

The visit was presided over by the Chief Rabbi of the Portuguese Synagogue, Daniel Cohen d’Azvedo (1751-1823). Born in London as the son of Moses Cohen d’Azvedo, Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese congregations there, he was rabbi in Amsterdam from 1779 until 1812.

Zosa Szajkowski’s ‘Judaica-Napoleonica’ records only one other similar publication from Napoleon and Marie Louise’s visit to the Netherlands, a record of the prayers and canticles at their visit to the Synagogue in Rotterdam.

*Szajkowski, ‘Judaica-Napoleonica: A bibliography of Books, Pamphlets and Printed Documents, 1801-1815’, 221, in Jews and the French Revolutions of 1789, 1830 and 1848, New York, KTAV, 1970; OCLC records copies at NYPL, Chicago, Wisconsin, and the National Library of Israel.*



### Sonnet for a comet

6. [BANDETTINI, TERESA]. L'ULTIMA COMETA che andò a perdersi verso il Polo nel segno dell'Aquila. Pronostico verificato. Sonetto allegorico. Modena: presso la Società Tipografica, 1814. £400 (+VAT in UK)

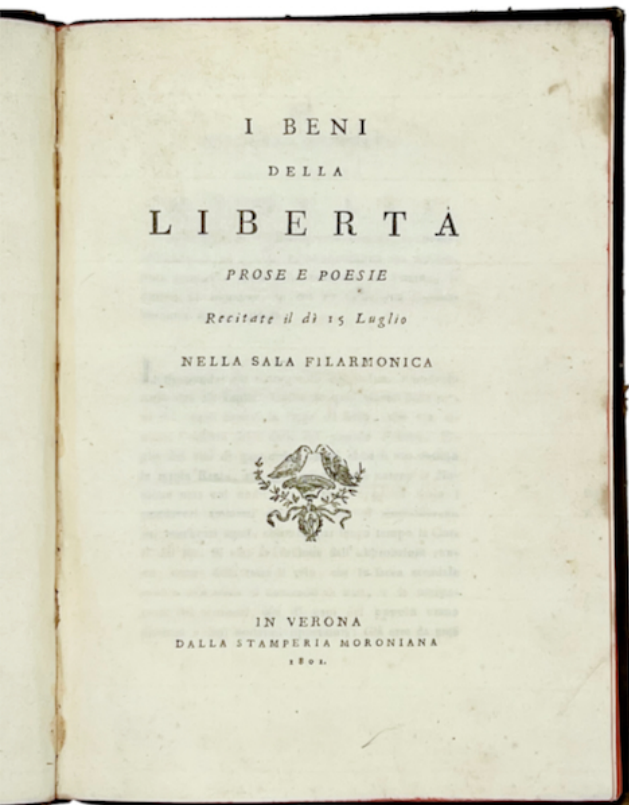
FIRST EDITION. *Single sheet, 540 x 400 mm; clean and fresh.*

A very good copy of this exceptionally rare sonnet by the improvisatory poet and dancer Teresa Bandettini, published under the pseudonym Teano Parrasside, inspired by the recent passage of the Great Comet of 1811, which had been visible for some 260 days.



Bandettini (1763-1837) made her reputation as a dancer, before turning to poetry in the late 1780s. A member of the Arcadi and one of the most sought-after poets of her generation, she published a vast array of works ranging from single sonnets to verse tragedies, many of which are very scarce. We have been unable to trace another copy of the present poem, although it was alluded to by Giovanna Manzoli del Monte in her *Visione*, published in the same year.

*Not recorded by OCLC or SBN.*



### Bastille Day in Italy

**7. BANDETTINI, TERESA ET AL. I BENI DELLA LIBERTÀ** Prose e poesie recitate il dì 15 Luglio nella Sala Filarmonica. Verona: dalla Stamperia Moroniana, 1801. £400

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. lxxvi; engraved vignette on title and occasional tailpieces; marginal staining to title and front free endpaper, otherwise clean and crisp throughout in contemporary sheep, boards bordered in gilt, spine gilt with gilt-lettered skiver label; binding lightly worn, but still an attractive copy.

A good copy of this rare collection of works in both prose and verse recited at the Sala Filarmonica in Verona to mark the twelfth anniversary of Bastille Day.

Each of the pieces celebrates, in its own way, the benefits of the liberty granted to France, and subsequently to Italy, by the Revolution. The authors include Sextus de Miollis, the French

general who was to go on to become Governor of Mantua, who encourages the shades of Rousseau, Voltaire, and Montesquieu to rejoice, and Antonio Gianella, president of the Verona municipality, who credits the 'sacred fire of liberty' for the existence of the Cisalpine Republic. Saverio Bettinelli contributes a sonnet, while the Lucca improvisatory poet Teresa Bandettini addresses a lengthy anacreontic to General Miollis. In all there are contributions from twenty writers, including a number of members of both the Accademia Agraria and the Accademia Filarmonica of Verona.

*Not in OCLC; SBN records three copies in Italy, at the Biblioteca civica in Belluno, the Biblioteca d'arte e di storia di San Giorgio in Poggiale in Bologna, and the Braidense in Milan.*





### Grammar for ladies of quality, young gentlemen, and nuns

8. BEAUMONT, M. NOUVELLE GRAMMAIRE FRANÇOISE ET LATINE enrichie de tailles-douces, plus curieuse, plus instructive, & plus methodique que toutes celles qui ont paru jusqu'à present. Cette Grammaire fait le premier Volume du Traité des Arts & des Sciences, que l'Auteur va donner au Public. Dediée au Roy. A Paris: Chez la veuve Le Febvre, Brocas, Delusseux, et la veuve Mongé, MDCCXXI [1721]. £850

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. [viii], 90, 8, 20, 70; from p.90 to p. 36 of final section entirely engraved; engraved frontispiece portrait of Louis XV, engraved vignette on title-page, and engraved headpieces and initials; occasional light spotting and faint marginal dampstaining, but largely clean and crisp throughout; in contemporary sheep, spine gilt in compartments with gilt lettering-piece; boards, extremities, and joints somewhat worn but still a good copy.

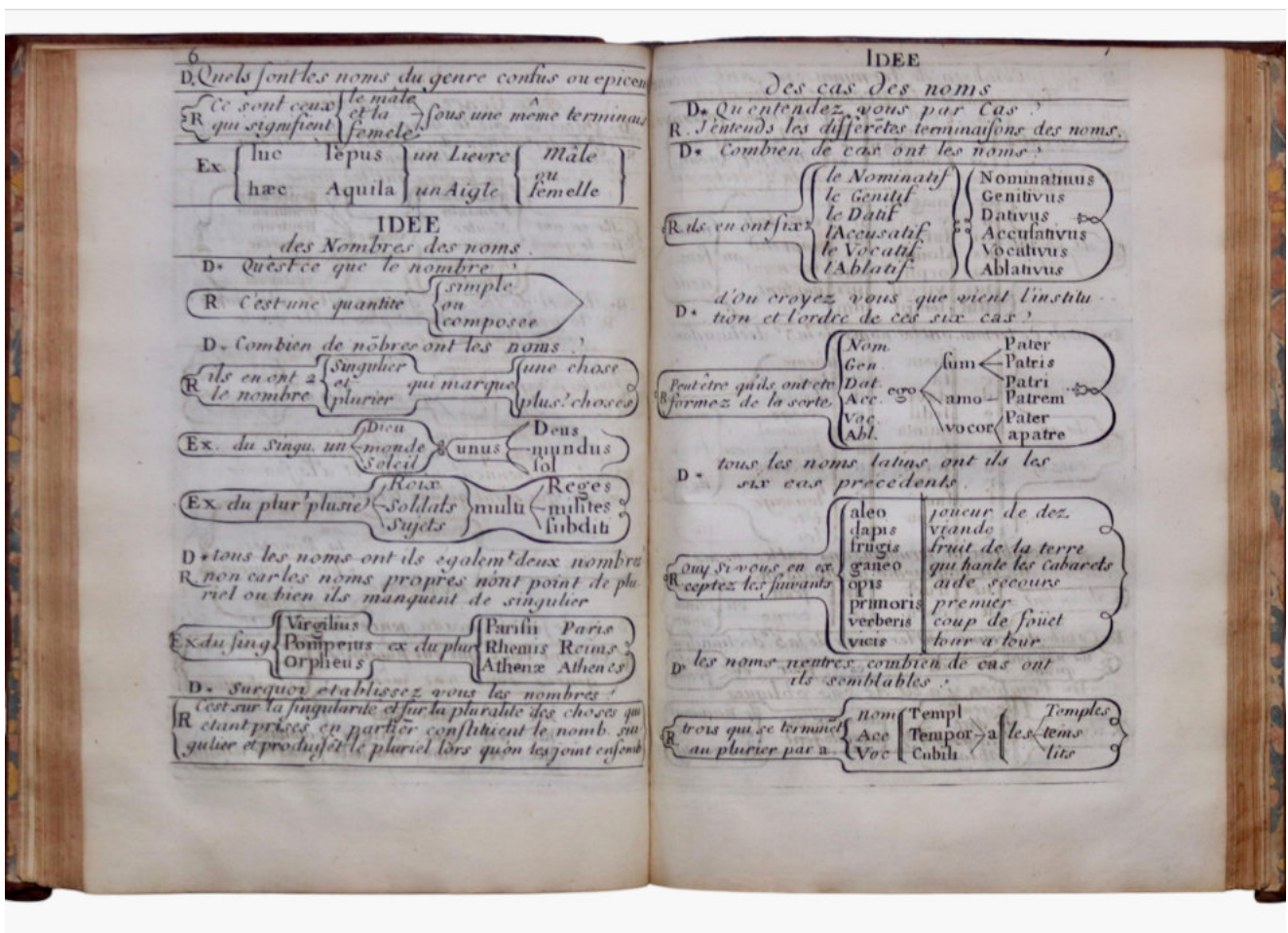
Only edition, dedicated to the young Louis XV, of this new introduction to French and, especially, Latin grammar, aimed at rectifying some of the errors into which previous attempts had fallen.

After a lengthy introduction in which Beaumont sets out some of what he sees as the failings in the education of the young (in particular the tendency of teachers to be drunken, blasphemous, and 'continual exemplars of a licentious life', while they should rather exhibit impeccable conduct so as not to lead astray the 'jeunes gens purs & innocents'), he proposes his method of grammar, which should appeal to every constituency: 'Dames de qualité, les jeunes Seigneurs, & les Religieuses qui voudront avoir la satisfaction de lire ou d'apprendre la Grammaire Latine & Françoise, avec des ornemens nouveaux'.

The first, printed, section sets out the rudiments of French grammar, which is offered as a prerequisite for the understanding of Latin grammar, showing the parts of speech, the conjugation of verbs, and so forth: ‘Once children know the parts fluently in French, one can give them more difficult phrases... always proceeding from the known to the unknown, one can arrive at expressing these parts in Latin’ (p. 48). This leads on to the second part, devoted entirely to Latin grammar and engraved throughout until the last 34 pages.

Although the title-page promises us that this is the first volume of a planned *Traité des Arts et des Sciences*, no such work ever appeared. The *Nouvelle grammaire*, though, seemed to be well-received, with a page of *approbations* from the ‘principal professors of the University of Paris’ (p. [vii]).

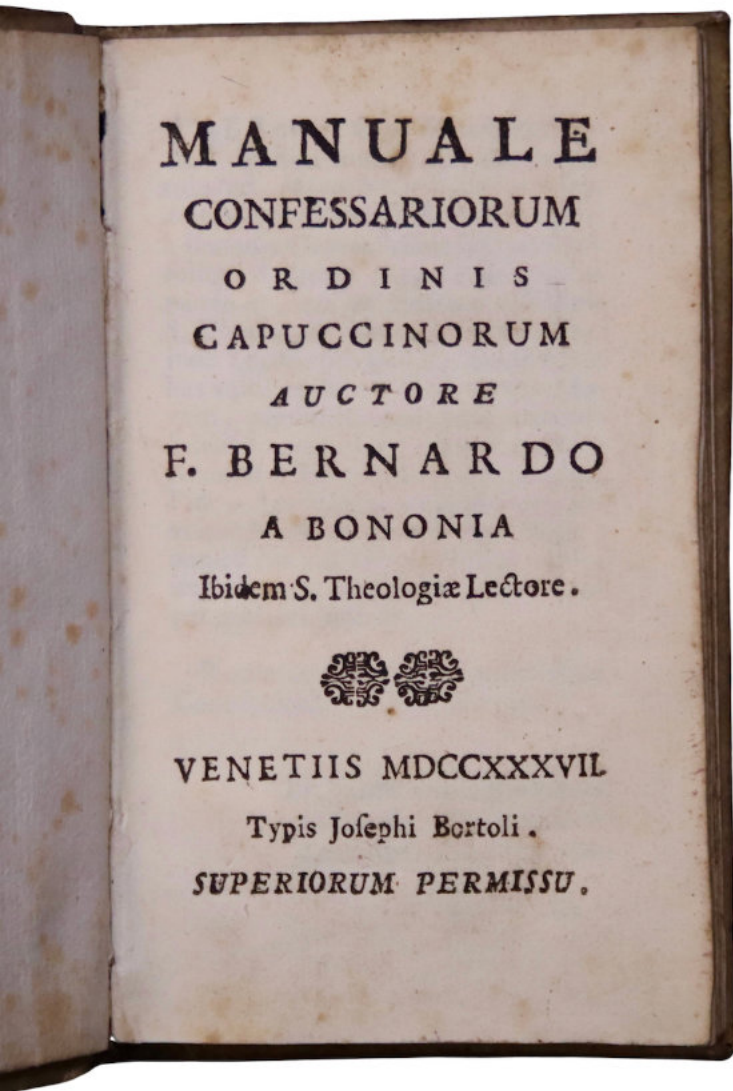
OCLC records copies at Maastricht, the Mazarine, and the national libraries of France and Spain.



Placed on the *Index*

9. BERNARDO DA BOLOGNA. MANUALE CONFESSARIORUM Ordinis Capuccinorum auctore F. Bernardo a Bononia ibidem S. Theologiae Lectore. Venetiis: Typis Josephi Bortoli, MDCCXXXVII [1737]. £295

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. [xii], 132, [1] errata, [1] blank; woodcut initial; some light spotting and foxing throughout; in contemporary vellum; somewhat dustsoiled; book-label of the former Capuchin monastery at Eichstätt on front paste-down.



Scarce first edition of this manual of confession for the Capuchin order, by Bernardo da Bologna (born Floriano Toselli, 1699-1768), a friar and theologian based at the Capuchin house in Bologna.

Over seven chapters, Bernardo explains the institution of the sacrament of confession, and who can legitimately hear confessions, before offering guidance on the choosing of a confessor, explaining the powers of confessors within the Order and beyond it, and describing the various cases in which confession might be given to secular confessors, for instance when duelling is involved.

Although the work was much reprinted, this was despite its having been placed on the Index on September 11, 1741, on account of two propositions deemed incompatible with Benedict XIV's revisions to the privileges and jurisdiction of religious orders, the first dealing with whether a Capuchin could seek confession outside the Order (to which Bernardo had answered negatively), and the second regarding the violation of the cloister in female convents. A revised edition, taking into account these objections, appeared in 1745, and became the standard Capuchin work on the subject, reprinted as late as 1832. In addition to numerous theological works, all with a Scotist flavour, Bernardo also published a three volume attack on modern philosophy, *Institutio philosophica praemittenda theologiae* (1766).

*See Treccani vol 9; OCLC records no copies outside Continental Europe.*

## Newborn Napoleon

**10. BORGNO, GIROLAMO FEDERICO and PIETRO BRAVO. PEL NASCIMENTO DEL RE DI ROMA** figlio primogenito di Napoleone il Grande imperator de' Francesi e re d'Italia ec. Ode di Girolamo Federico Borgno. Inno di Pietro Bravo. Brescia: per Franzoni tipografo, MDCCCXI [1811]. £650

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. xvi, red edges slightly bleeding onto margins, else clean and crisp throughout; in contemporary pink boards, green paper spine and corners; light wear but a very attractive copy.

PEL NASCIMENTO  
 DEL  
**RE DI ROMA**  
 FIGLIO PRIMOGENITO  
 DI  
**NAPOLEONE IL GRANDE**  
 IMPERATOR DE'FRANCESI E RE D'ITALIA EC.  
 ODE  
 DI GIROLAMO FEDERICO BORGNO  
 INNO  
 DI PIETRO BRAVO  
  
 BRESCIA  
 PER FRANZONI TIPOGRAFO  
 MDCCCXI

As far as we can tell unrecorded volume containing two poems celebrating the birth of Napoleon II, the son of Napoleon who was to go on to be Emperor of the French (at the age of four) for a month after the fall of his father.

The first is a Latin ode by the Brescia poet and writer Girolamo Federico Borgno (1761-1817), who reflects on the mythology surrounding the foundation of Rome, of which the newborn Napoleon was King from his birth. The ode was first delivered at the Ateneo di Brescia in 1811, where several other of Borgno's Latin poems (on Dante, Ugo Foscolo, and others) were later performed.

This is followed by a hymn, in Italian, by the Brescia historian and poet Pietro Bravo (1785-1842).

*Not in OCLC or SBN.*

## MY book

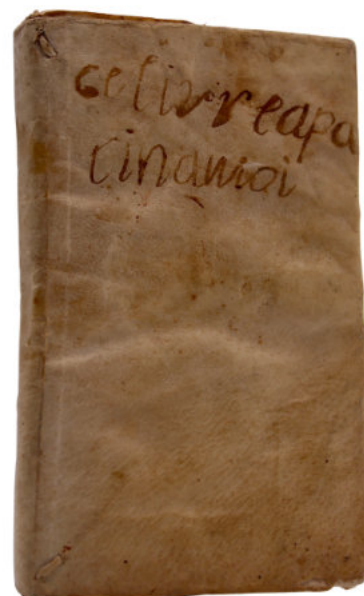
11. **CICERO. EPISTRES CHOISIES DE CICERON**, latines et françoises. Rouen: Chez Richard & Nicolas Lallemand, [1704]. £275

*12mo, pp. 183, [4] table, [2] permission; woodcut head- and tailpieces; some foxing and light marginal dampstaining throughout; contemporary ownership signature of Louis Lanson on title-page, and a lending note in ink (in the same hand?) on rear paste-down; in contemporary vellum, somewhat worn with 'Mr. Georges' in ink in a contemporary hand on lower cover and 'Ce livre apartin a moi' on upper cover.*

Very rare Rouen printing of this selection of Cicero's letters, designed for school use and printed with parallel French translation. Printed in 1704 (according to the approbation at the end of the work), this is one of the first books printed by Nicolas Lallemand, who had joined his father's business two years before; the earliest to appear in the BnF is the *Le petit apparat royal* of 1705.

An early owner seemed especially keen on asserting his possession, with 'This books belongs to me' enthusiastically scrawled on the upper cover, as well as an exchange (of which much is crossed out) relating to the lending of it ('Prete moi donc un instant ce livre que tu as ... je te le donnerai de suite').

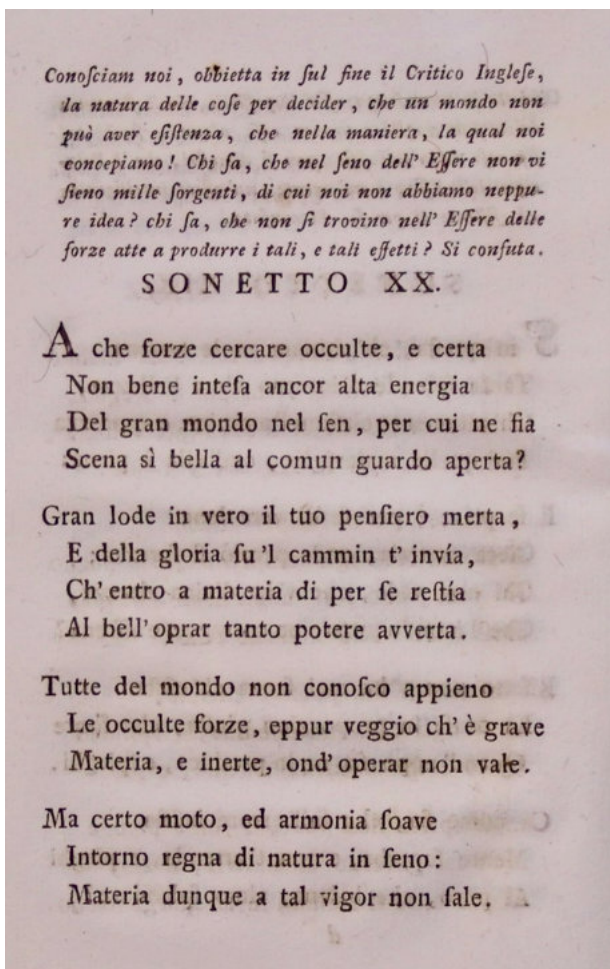
*Not in OCLC or CCFr.*



## Metaphysics made palatable

12. [CIPRIANI, GIOSAFATTE]. SONETTI FILOSOFICI DI METAFISICA. Verona: Nella Stamperia Giuliani, 1799. £400

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. 111, [1] blank; repaired tear to bottom corner of b4, not affecting text; aside from some occasional spotting, clean and crisp throughout; rear free endpaper trimmed in half; in contemporary half sheep, green boards, spine in compartments with gilt-lettered label; some wear to extremities and boards, and small wormhole to upper cover, but still an attractive copy.



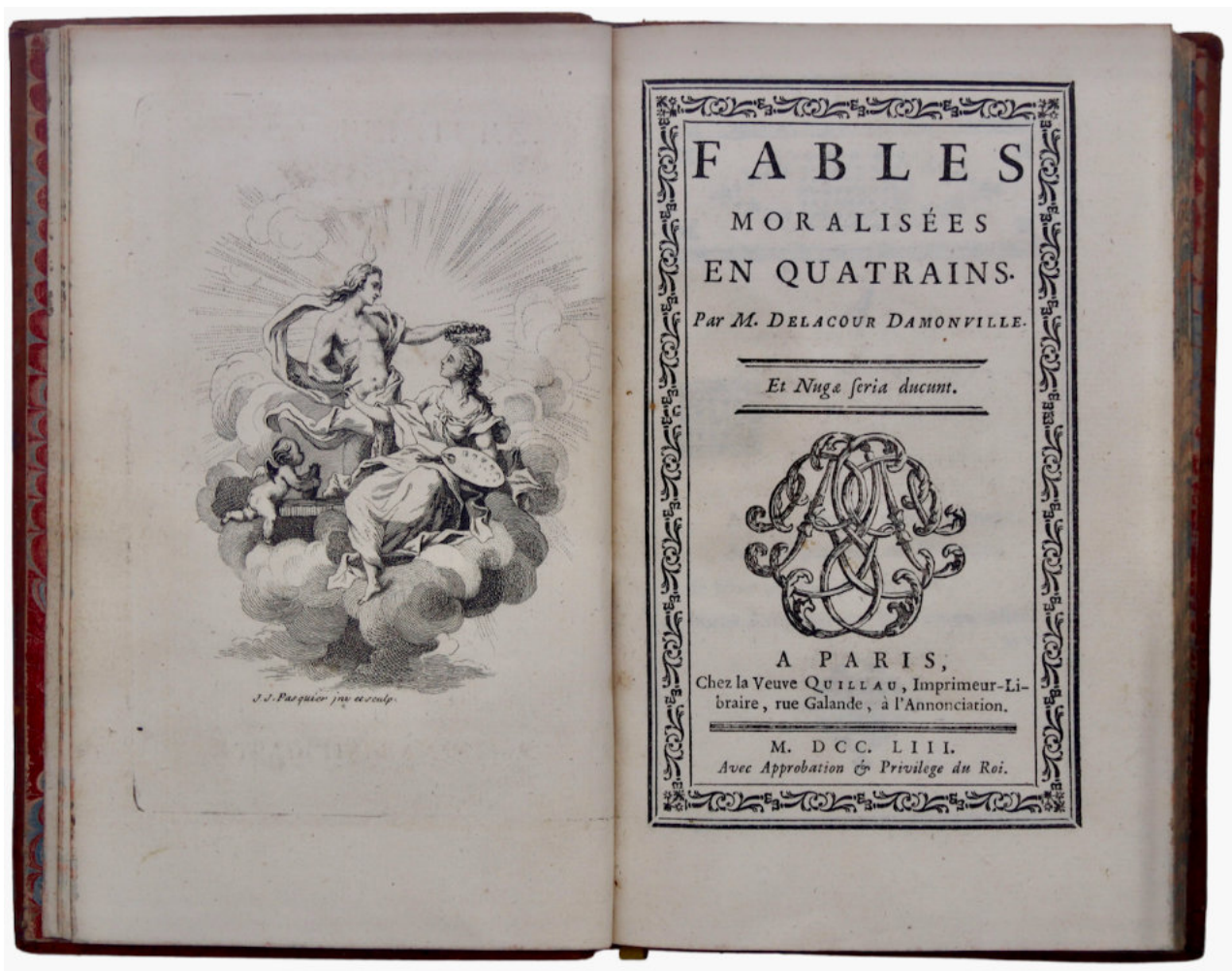
Only edition, rare, of this set of sonnets on philosophical themes by the Veronese priest and poet Giosafatte Cipriani (c. 1769-1840).

Written with the aim of sweetening the otherwise rather bitter pill of metaphysics for young readers who might otherwise be put off the study of philosophy by its usual austere and rigid form, while also offering an antidote to the 'poisonous pestilential systems' that had dishonoured the preceding century, the book is divided into three sections: psychology, natural theology, and ethics, with exactly one hundred sonnets in all. With subjects ranging from the immortality of the soul to the existence of natural law, Cipriani's poems address and attempt, insofar as is possible in fourteen lines, to refute the arguments of Locke, Voltaire, Spinoza, and Bayle, while summarising Aquinas' views on human freedom, attacking Mirabaud and Newton, and addressing Rousseau's views on the social contract and on education.

Little is known of Cipriani beyond his publications, which include three novels published in Verona in the 1810s, an epic poem on the life of Constantine, and a study of Veronese Marian devotion.

The present copy does not have the table of contents present at the end of the British Library copy, which also has an additional two-page 'avviso dell' autore', printed at least a decade subsequently; there is nothing to suggest these were ever present.

OCLC records copies at Yale and the BL only (both pp. 116, [2]).



## Condensed fables

**13. DELACOUR DAMONVILLE, MICHEL. FABLES MORALISÉES EN QUATRAINS.** A Paris: Chez la Veuve Quillau, MDCCLIII [1753]. £785

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 110, [2] *approbation and privilege; with engraved frontispiece by Pasquier; title within decorative border, with engraved printer's device; text throughout within double border, with head- and tailpieces; aside from the very occasional faint spotting, clean and crisp throughout; in slightly later calf, flat spine gilt with brown morocco lettering-piece; marbled edges; very light bumping to corners and a few light marks but a lovely copy.*

A very good copy of this unusual collection of fables by the French lawyer Michel Delacour-Damonville (1690-1756), beautifully printed with a vast array of typographical ornament by the widow Quillau (died 1764), who had taken over the press from her late husband the previous year, and was the sister of the engraver Jean-François Cars (1699-1771).

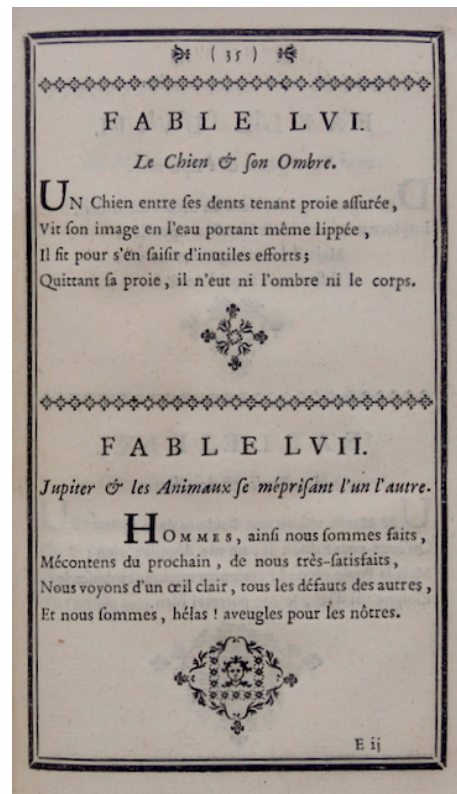
The author may have anticipated critical hostility to his work, as he opens with a quatrain to the critics to let them know that the fables are not his but those of Phaedrus and La Fontaine, so any complaints should be addressed to them: 'envieux ta critique est vaine'.

With this disclaimer out of the way, we find 150 fables and 50 maxims drawn from those authors, each reduced to a quatrain (and printed with its own unique tailpiece). For instance, fable XLIII in the present collection, 'Les Voleurs & l'Ane', takes La Fontaine's fable (book 1, fable 13), itself based on that of Aesop, and renders it as:

*Pour un Ane volé deux Voleurs disputoient;  
Vint un tiers qui prit l'Ane, & sur lui prit la suite,  
Laisant nos deux champions qui pour rien se  
battoient; Souvent des différends un troisième  
profite.*

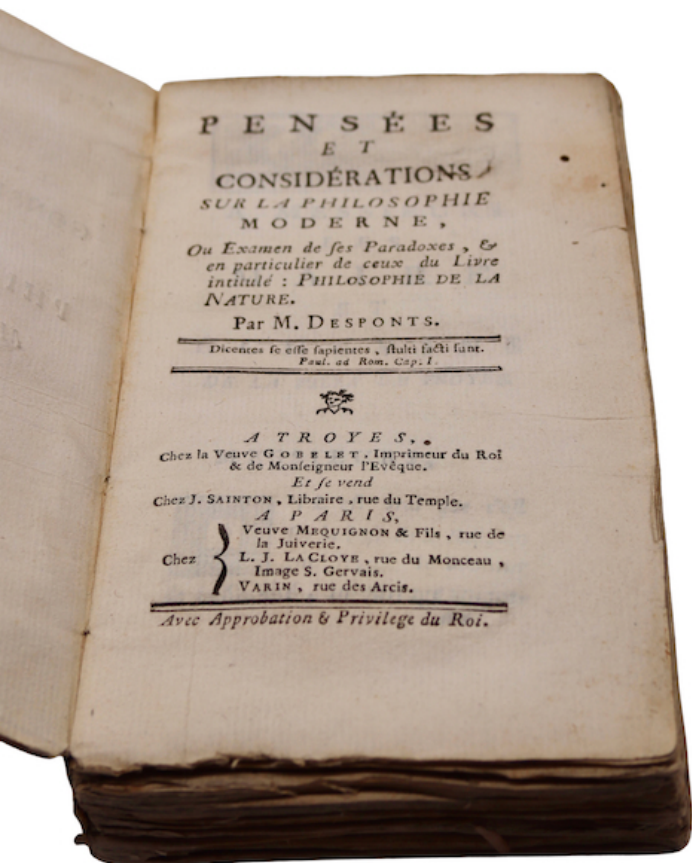
A second edition, with the subtitle ‘à l’usage des enfans’, appeared printed by Barbou in 1756. Little is known of the author, although the BnF attributes to him a *Discours prononcé par mademoiselle Pérette de la Babille* of 1736, and Princeton records a copy of Justus Reisenberg’s 1632 *Emblemata politica* with his book-plate.

*Outside Continental Europe, OCLC records copies at Princeton, Texas A&M, Toronto, San Francisco Public Library, and the University of Florida; not in LibraryHub.*



## Anti-Philosophisme

14. **DESPONTS, M. PENSÉES ET CONSIDÉRATIONS** sur la philosophie moderne, ou Examen de ses Paradoxes, & en particulier de ceux du Livre intitulé: Philosophie de la Nature. A Troyes: Chez Gobelet, et se vend chez J. Sainton. A Paris, chez Veuve Mequignon & Fils, L.J. La Cloye, Varin, [1780]. £485

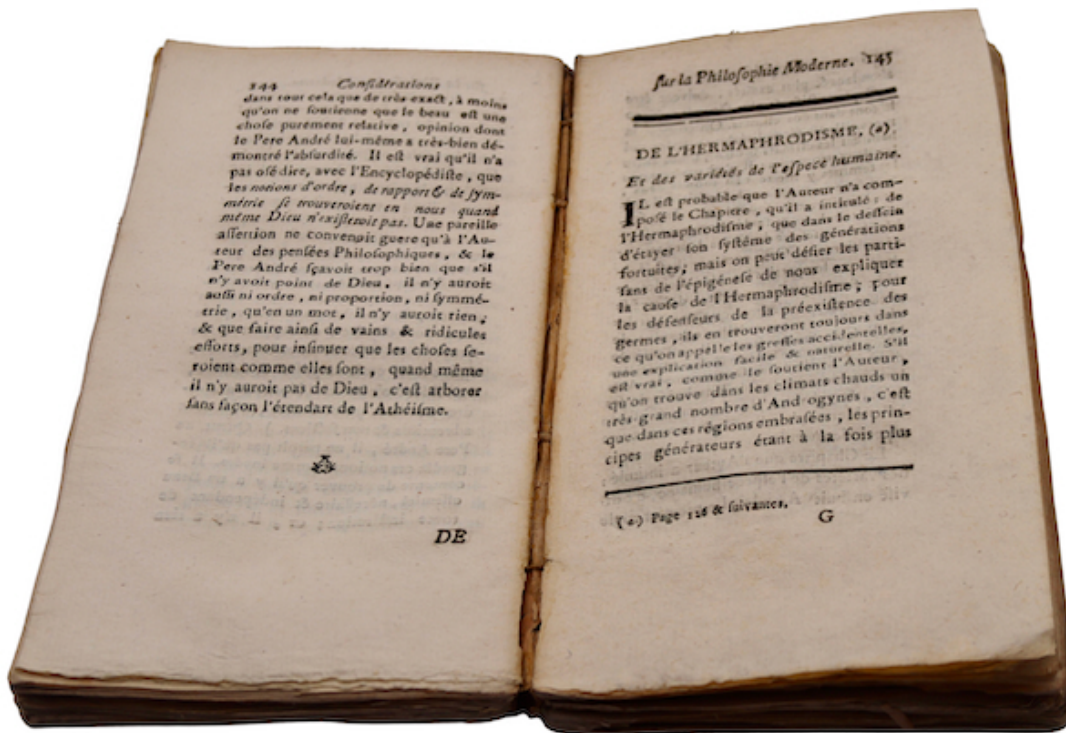


FIRST EDITION 12mo, pp. [ii], xviii, 357, [3] table des matières, [4] approbation and privilege du roi; paper flaw to half-title, single wormhole in margin of prelims, occasional spotting, and paper lightly yellowed throughout; dampstaining to the last few leaves; otherwise clean and crisp; in contemporary marbled wrappers, spine with old paper reinforcement, handwritten paper label on upper wrapper and title in rather smudged ink on spine; somewhat worn but still an attractive copy in its way.

First edition of this uncommon examination of one of the more pernicious examples of the ‘philosophisme’ polluting the intellectual culture of the late eighteenth century, the *La Philosophie de la Nature* by Delisle de Sales, which had first appeared in 1778.

The philosopher and mathematician Nicolas Desponts (born 1749) taught at the École centrale of the Aube département and at the





college in Brienne, where the young Napoleon Bonaparte was among his pupils. In this work, he leaves the reader in no doubt of his view of the philosophical currents of the time: 'In reading this immense collection of incoherent chapters, which have been decorated with the glitzy title *The Philosophy of Nature*, I saw that it was a resumé of the most dangerous paradoxes which are found spread widely around the writings of our philosophists, and which our author [Delisle] has himself endeavoured to increase'. Following the structure of Delisle's work, and quoting extensively from it, Desponts attacks his target's approach to physics (motion, creation, and the origins of the universe), human biology (ranging from generation to hermaphroditism), psychology and the soul, ethics (from the principles of morality to suicide) and finally theology (the relation of God to humans, the divine attributes, the possibility of miracles, and the nature of heaven, hell, angels, and devils).

OCLC records three copies, at Chicago, Cambridge, and the BnF.

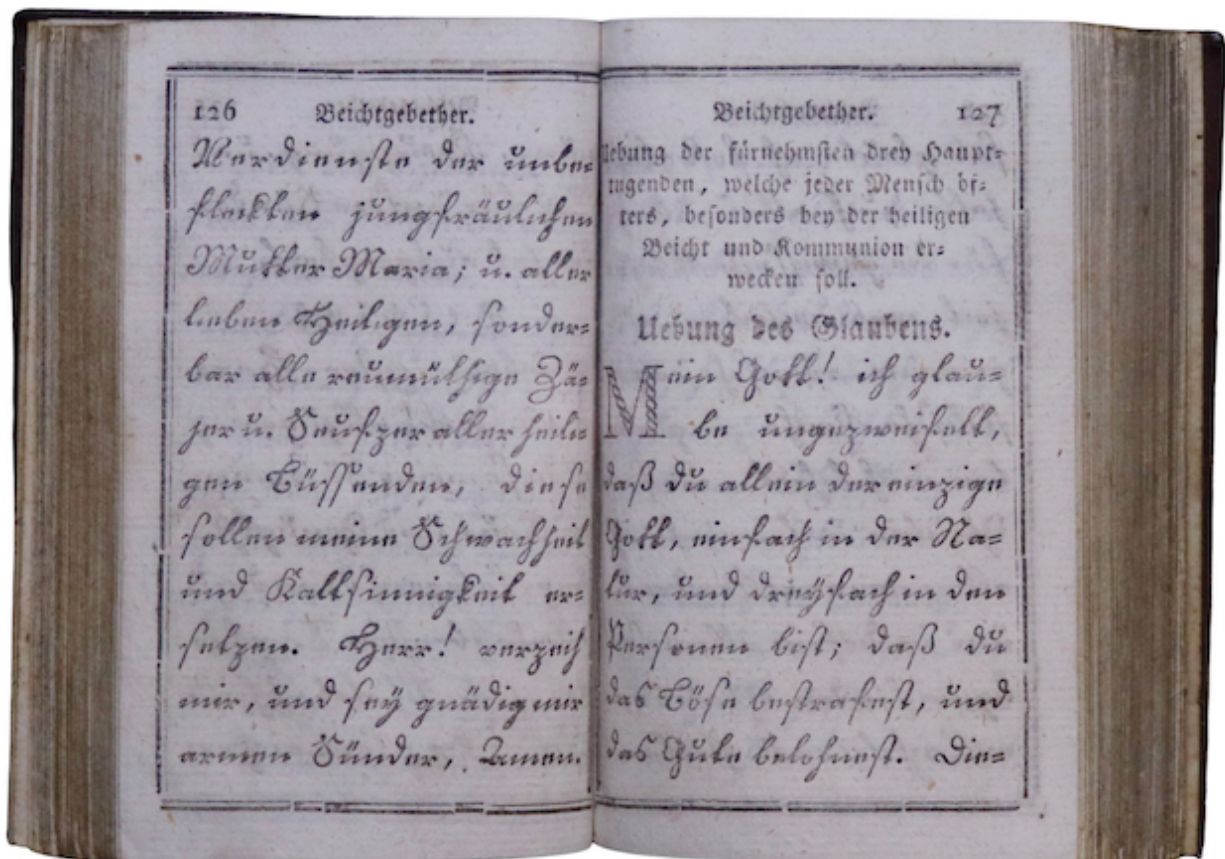


### Daily exercises

15. [DEVOTION]. TÄGLICHE EHRE UND LOB GOTTES oder Weise wie ein Christ täglich seinen Gott ehren und loben soll, bestehend in schönen und anmuthigen Morgen- Abend- Meß- Beicht- und Kommunion-Gebether, nebst Andacht u. Tagzeiten zu U.L. Frau, und verschiedenen andern heiligen Gottes, samt den Tag- zeiten zur göttl. Vorsichtigkeit. Zusammengetragen v. G.W. Mit Sr. churf. Durchl. in Baiern allergnäd. Privil. u. Censur. Baiardiessen [i.e. Dießen am Ammersee]: Verlegt v. Baab u. v. Schorn., c.1776. £725



FIRST EDITION? 12mo, pp. 281, [1] blank, [59], [1] blank; with full-page woodcut on verso of title-page and fifteen further full-page woodcuts, included in pagination, depicting the Stations of the Cross; text within border, printed in a mixture of Fraktur and Kurrent; occasional spotting, but largely clean and fresh; in contemporary mottled calf, with geometric gilt border on covers; with the original calf slipcase, with decorative paper inlay and case bordered in blind; some wear, and the odd small wormhole to case, but still a very attractive copy, with the ownership signature of Katharina Schnetzlingerin (?) dated 1824 on front paste-down.



Very rare provincial prayer book, printed almost entirely in Kurrentschrift, containing prayers for throughout the day, for communion, and confession, along with devotions to accompany the Stations of the Cross, with each of the last illustrated with its own full-page woodcut.

The printers Baab and Schorn, in the small Bavarian town of Baierdießen (now Dießen am Ammersee) published a number of devotional works in the 1770s, including *Medulla missae Germanica, das ist Meß-Erklärung über Hoenig süß* (1772) and a *Goldenes Meß-Büchlein* (c.1779), as well as the *Heilige Wallfahrt*, or Stations of the Cross, compiled by Franciscan friars ‘in unterschiedlichen Orten und Konventen’ that makes up the final part of the present book. The separate printing of this last, though, along with all the other works identified, are printed entirely in Fraktur (see the copy in Münster, digitized at <https://sammlungen.ulb.uni-muenster.de/hd/content/titleinfo/3774652>); the present work is largely in Kurrentschrift, with only the section headings in Fraktur.

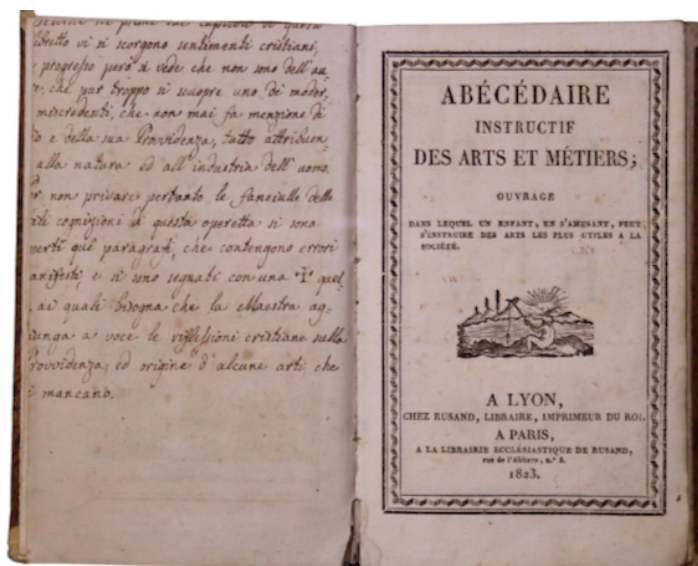
We have been unable to locate any other copies.

*Date from Privilege; not in VD18, OCLC or KVK.*

### Careful now

16. [EDUCATION]. ABÉCÉDAIRE INSTRUCTIF DES ARTS ET MÉTIERS; ouvrage dans lequel un enfant, en s'amusant, peut s'instruire des arts les plus utiles a la société. Lyon: chez Rusand, 1823. £485

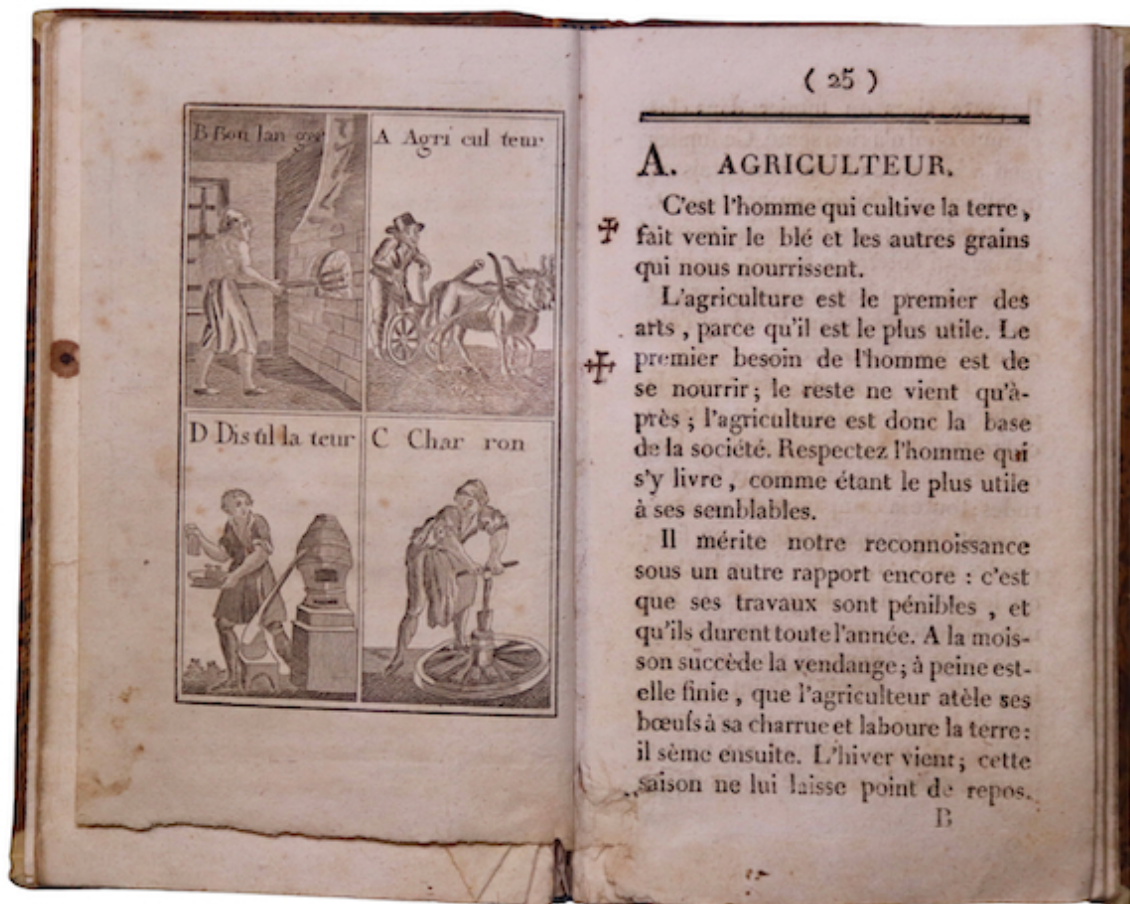
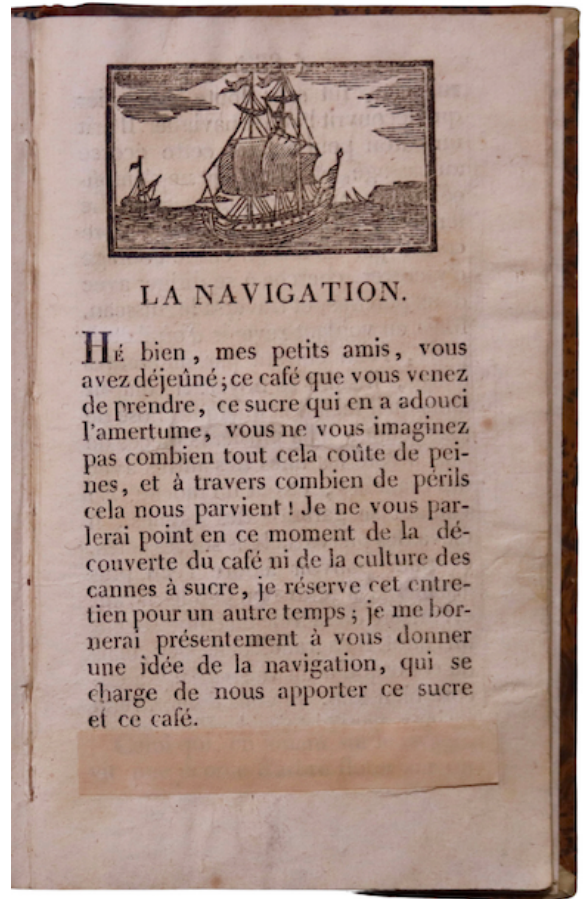
*12mo, pp. [ii], 96; with engraved frontispiece and half-title (possibly bound in wrong order), and six leaves of plates; woodcut headpieces to each chapter; numerous markings in ink throughout, and several passages covered by paper glued on (see below); contemporary manuscript note on verso of half-title explaining the annotations and omissions; some marginal tears at foot, not affecting text, and occasional foxing; in calf-backed boards aping tree calf; light wear, but still an attractive copy.*



A fascinating example of censorship, in this later edition of this much reprinted (but always rare) guide to trades and professions. Comprising both a reading tutor, complete with an opening fable, and a survey of jobs, arranged alphabetically from agriculteur to yeux (and the importance of using them) via distillers, opticians, millers, painters, usurer, and winemaker, the volume ends with a ‘petit spectacle de la nature’, offering sketches of some of the most important things for a child to know about: wheat and vines, navigation, mining, and the sun and moon. Each chapter is illustrated with a crude woodcut headpiece, and six leaves of plates each have four of the trades illustrated.

Any thoughts that this might seem perfectly wholesome, however, are removed by the early Italian reader who has covered parts (sometimes a line, sometimes half a page) with paper, and heavily annotated the margins to warn any reader of the its moral pitfalls. The reasoning is explained in a note on the verso of the half-title. Although slightly cropped, the sense is clear: although some of the work exhibits a Christian spirit, there are parts where the roles of Providence, nature, and human industry are confused with one another; so as not to deprive girls of the undoubted benefits of the book, the paragraphs containing obvious errors are covered up, while those marked with a cross are to be further explained by the schoolmistress with Christian reflections on the role of Providence.

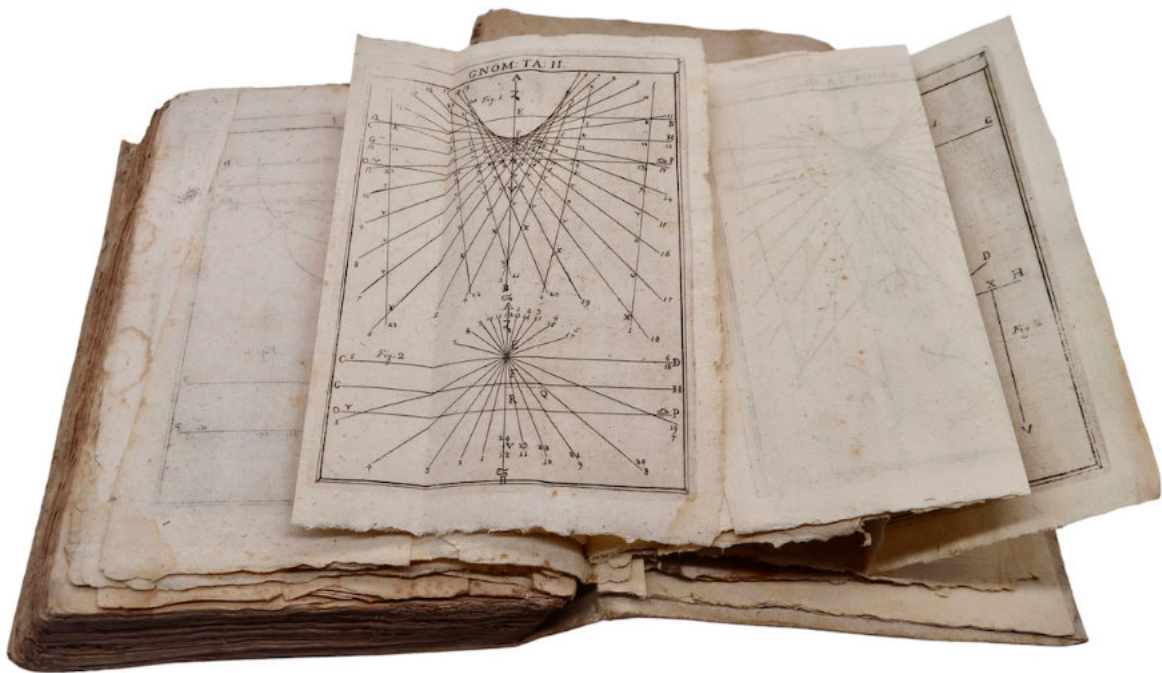
*This edition not in OCLC, which records only one copy of any earlier edition outside Continental Europe, that of 1809, at Princeton.*



## Mathematics for surveyors and others

**17. FILONZI, FRANCESCANTONIO.** PRATICHE MATEMATICHE divise in tre trattati. Primo dell'aritmetica, in cui praticamente si spiegano le sue quattro specie colle regole delle Proporzioni, Progressioni, Estrazioni delle radici con quanto ad esse appartiene, ed in fine un Modo pratico di formare i Libri a comodo de' Fattori, Ministri, ec. Secondo dell' agrimensura, Ove trattasi della più facile misura de' Terreni, formazzioni delle Piante, Cabrei, e Catasti, della rivisioni de' Confini, livellazione de' Terreni, delle misure di qualunque corpo, ed altresì del misurare, e condurre le Acque, con altre molte utilissime istruzioni, che redono l'Uomo in tal Arte un esperto Perito. Terzo della cosmografia divisa in due parti, Nella prima delle quali si dà una perfetta regola per la cognizione di tutt' i Punti, e Circoli della Sfera Armillare; e nella second insegnasi la Gnomonica, cioè la maniera di delineare gli Orologi Solari in qualunque Piano. ... Tomo primo [-secondo]. In Ancona: nella stamperia di Michelarcangiolo Sartori, MDCCLXXV [1775]. £950

FIRST EDITION. *Two volumes, 4to, pp. xii. 240; 312, with 22 folding leaves of plates at the end of volume II; woodcut head- and tailpieces and initials; some spotting and foxing throughout; occasional dampstaining, heavier on final few plates; in contemporary carta rustica, title in ink on spines; section of spine of volume I loose, and some light wear elsewhere.*



First edition (a second appeared in 1804) of this comprehensive introduction to practical mathematics, by the Franciscan friar, theologian, and mathematician Francesco Antonio Filonzi.

Opening with the very basics of arithmetic (the history of Roman and Arabic numbers and how to read them; the basic functions of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; fractions and ratios) and proceeding to the rule of three, square roots, and basic arithmetical geometry, Filonzi offers a series of examples to aid the student, along with a few arithmetical games with a mercantile theme; he is explicit that his work is designed primarily for commerce, and he concludes with a simple guide to book-keeping. This first treatise takes up the whole

of the first volume; the longer second volume is occupied by two treatises, on *agrimensura* or land surveying, and on cosmography. It is probably the former that is of most interest: working from the principles of geometry elaborated at the start, Filonzi explains how to measure various types of polygon, as an introduction to the measurement of parcels of land for mapping, surveying, and valuation, showing how it can be used in the legal division of estates (and in determining the *dominio* of, for instance, women after marriage). Filonzi also devotes chapters to the measurement and assessment of watercourses, the maintenance of roads and woodlands, and the mathematical rules governing the estimation of plots of land, all of which have the ultimate aim of guiding surveyors and, ultimately, notaries in the correct compilation of cadastral registers.

The final treatise, on cosmography, opens with a section explaining the purpose and use of the armillary sphere, before discussing the zodiac, the course of the sun throughout the year, the horizon, the meridians, the measurement of time, and the use of astronomical clocks.

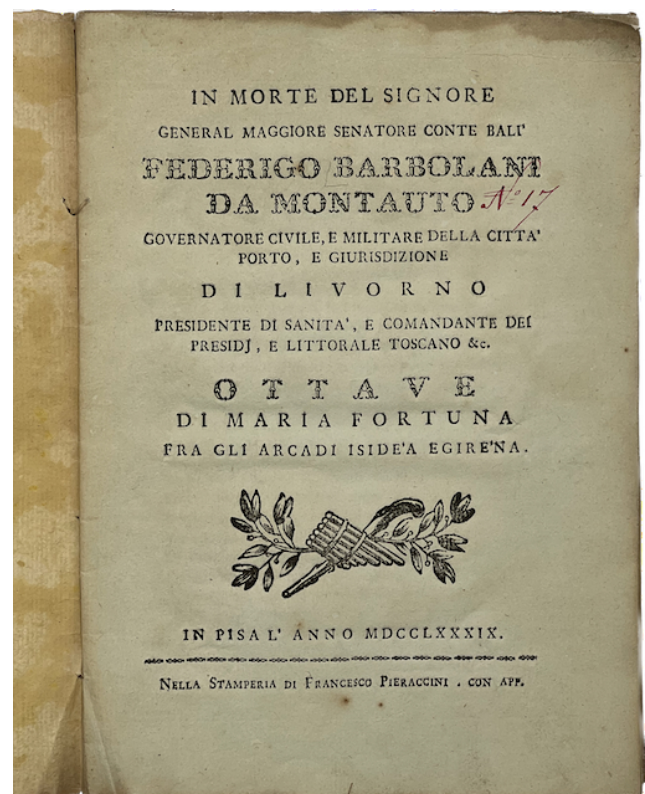
Beyond the information given on the title-page of the present work, little is known of Filonzi; this appears to be his only published work.

*OCLC records copies at Berkeley, Harvard, Michigan, Oklahoma, Columbia, UCL, and the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin.*

#### Admired by Casanova

18. [FORTUNA, MARIA]. IN MORTE DEL  
SIGNORE GENERAL MAGGIORE  
SENATORE CONTE BALI FEDERIGO  
BARBOLANI DA MONTAUTO  
governatore civile, e militare della città  
porto, e giurisdizione di Livorno, presidente  
di sanità, e comandante del presidi, e  
littorale toscano &c. Ottave di Maria Fortuna  
fra gli Arcadi Ididea Egirena. In Pisa: nella  
Stamperia di Francesci Pieraccini, Anno  
MDCCLXXXIX [1789]. £325

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. [ii], XII; *Arcadian vignette on title and woodcut head- and tailpiece; 'no. 17' in red ink on title-page, and some staining to head of first two leaves, but otherwise clean and fresh throughout; in contemporary yellow wrappers; some light wear and marking.*



Only edition, very rare, of this poem in memory of Count Federigo Barbolani da Montauto (1742-1789), governor of Livorno, by the Arcadian poet and dramatist Maria Fortuna.

Little is known of the poet, who went under the Arcadian name of Isidéa Erigéna. She published a number of works, including a tragedy on the life of Sappho (Livorno, 1776), a collection of verses addressed to Metastasio (Rome, undated), and another tragedy, *Zaffira*, dedicated to Frederick III of Prussia (Siena, 1771); her tragedies were stylistically much indebted her fellow Arcadian Voltaire, whom she called 'the Sophocles of the Seine' in her

preface to *Saffò*). What biographical information we have comes largely from Casanova, who visited her in 1770 with Giuseppe Ciaccheri and was impressed with her poetical skills (while describing her also as ‘richement laide’). She appears to have been born around 1742, entered the Arcadi in 1768, and died in Livorno in 1807.

*See Valentina Coen’s article on Fortuna in DBI vol 49; not in OCLC; SBN records a copy at the Biblioteca Roncioniana in Prato.*



### Teaching Republicanism

19. [FRENCH REVOLUTION]. NOUVEAU CATHÉCHISME RÉPUBLICAIN, à l'usage des sans-culottes & de leurs enfans. Présenté à la convention nationale, pour être lu dans les écoles publiques. Suivi du Calendrier républicain, avec les mois & jours correspondans de l'ancien, décrété par la Convention nationale, pour la seconde année de la république française. Se vend à Dijon, chez Marin, ou à Besançon, chez Cornu. A Dijon: chez la veuve Defay, An II [1793-4]. £385

*12mo, pp. 39, [13] calendar; some browning and dustsoiling throughout; in contemporary patterned wrappers, cropped smaller than book block; somewhat dustsoiled and frayed.*

As far as we can tell unrecorded Dijon-printed revolutionary catechism, designed for the sans-culottes ‘and their children’ for use in public schools.

Opening with the question ‘Who are you?’, answered with ‘Man, free through both my natural and my French republican rights’, the catechism is divided into three chapters, in turn explaining the nature and structure of the new republic, the rights and duties of citizens, and the duties of a republican. Of these, the first is the most extended, explaining the causes of the revolution (the abusive power of the religious orders, the conduct of the aristocracy), the initial moments (the dismissal of Necker and the taking of the Bastille), and the aims of the revolutionaries. Thereafter, we are told that the duties of a republican include subordination, benevolence, justice and obedience to the law, and respect and docility of young republicans to their elders.

After the catechism, the religious theme is maintained with a republican hymn (to the tune of the *Marseillaise*, with twelve verses to satisfy even the most ardent); the ten commandments of the republic (to which six commandments of liberty are added) and a calendar for the coming year.

*Not in OCLC; the BnF has a copy of a Paris printing of the same title.*

## Classics for actors

20. [HOMER]. SOUVENIR MYTHOLOGIQUE, ou argumens de chaque livre des Métamorphoses d'Ovide, de l'Iliade et de l'Odyssée d'Homere, de l'Énéide et de Télémaque. A l'usage des Élèves de l'École royale dramatique, établie aux Menus-Plaisirs du Roi. [Paris]: de l'imprimerie de Pierre-Robert-Christophe Ballard, MDCCLXXXVIII [1788]. £395

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. [iv], 75, [1] blank; slight dustsoiling to title-page, but otherwise clean and fresh throughout; in later calf-backed marbled boards, spine gilt with black morocco label, marbled edges; some light wear, but still a good copy.

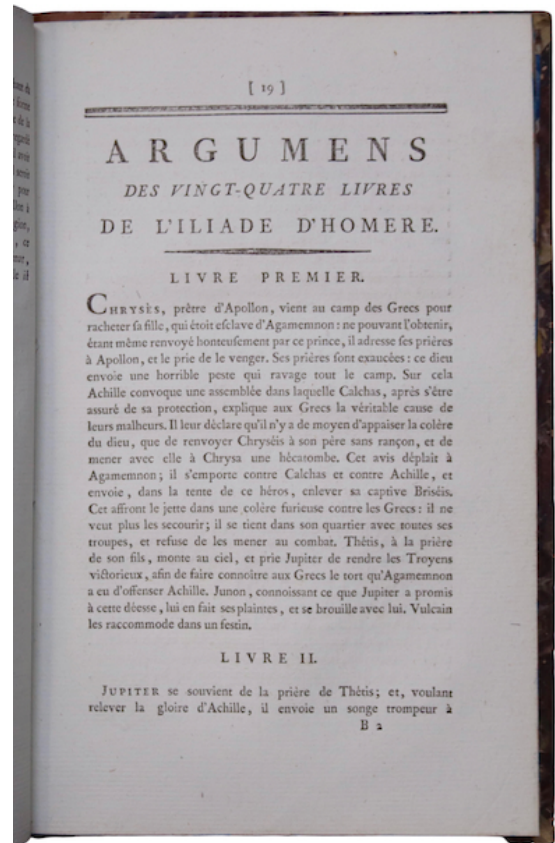
First and only edition of this collection of summaries of five standard works of classical literature, designed for students at the short-lived Ecole Royale Dramatique in Paris, a forerunner, along with the similarly newly established Ecole royale de chant, of the Paris Conservatoire.

A familiarity with at least the bare bones of Homeric and Virgilian plots was essential for anyone with aspirations in the French theatre in the late eighteenth century, and this selection of précis is designed to give students a crash course in the classics, covering the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, the *Aeneid*, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and, in the same vein, Fénelon's *Télémaque*. The preface sets out the purpose of the work:

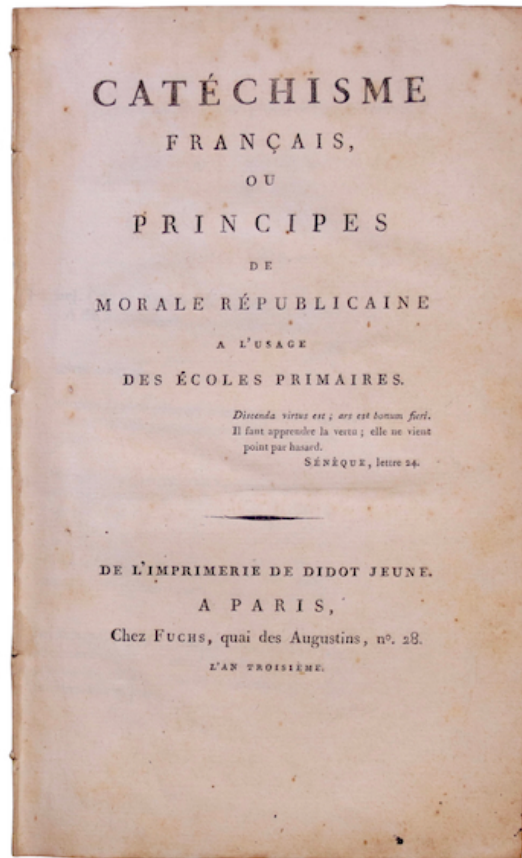
'These five works, well-known, shed the best light on pagan theology; mythology; the habits of the ancients both in war and peacetime; their arms, both offensive and defensive; their dress; their ways of dealing with neighbours, friends, and enemies; their public games; their religious ceremonies; their sacrifices; their funerals, and so on. Such knowledge is indispensable for every subject destined for the theatre; to aid the memory and facilitate research, we have decided to print, in this little volume, the plots of each book of these five poems. We invite students to make themselves familiar with them, to the point that they will be able to show, 'in the field' if a story cited to them is really taken from one of them, and which book any poem is from'.

The Ecole royale dramatique was established two years previously, in 1786, in response to the dwindling supply of actors to furnish the Comédie française, and lasted in that form only until the Revolution. A later manuscript note on the front free endpaper says 'Ce livre fait pour les élèves qui se destinent au théâtre, est devenu très rare'.

OCLC records copies at Princeton and the Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheek.







## How to be a citizen

21. [LA CHABEAUSSIÈRE, ANGE ETIENNE XAVIER]. CATÉCHISME FRANÇAIS, ou Principes de morale républicaine a l'usage des écoles primaires. A Paris: de l'imprimerie de Didot jeune, chez Fuchs, L'an troisième [1795]. £225

*8vo, pp. 19, [1] blank; some light spotting and foxing throughout; unbound.*

First Didot edition of this catechism in verse explaining to French primary school pupils the moral duties and beliefs appropriate to a new republican citizen, by the playwright and librettist Ange-Étienne-Xavier Poisson de la Chabeaussière (1752 -1820).

The catechism contains 52 questions, each with a four-line rhyming answer, ranging from the fundamental (Qui êtes-vous? Homme libre et pensant, républicain par choix) via the theological (Qu'est ce que Dieu? Je ne sais ce qu'il est, mais je vois son ouvrage), to the moral, where it discusses the nature of conscience, the passions, and nature of civic duty. The second half is occupied with more strictly political questions: what is the law (La volonté de tous), the constitution (Le garant de nos droits ... le Palladium de notre liberté), the duties of children to parents, of spouses to one another, and more broadly of citizens to society, before returning to the vices (anger, pride, avarice, envy, and idleness).

A note at the end attempts to justify the use of verse, which had raised eyebrows when the catechism first appeared the previous year. The owners of these eyebrows had forgotten perhaps that the Stoics expressly recommended that morals should be explained 'en maximes courtes et pressées', and that this advice was followed by, among others, Laroche-foucauld and Pibrac.

*OCLC records physical copies at the Newberry and Toronto.*

Inspired by Tom Jones

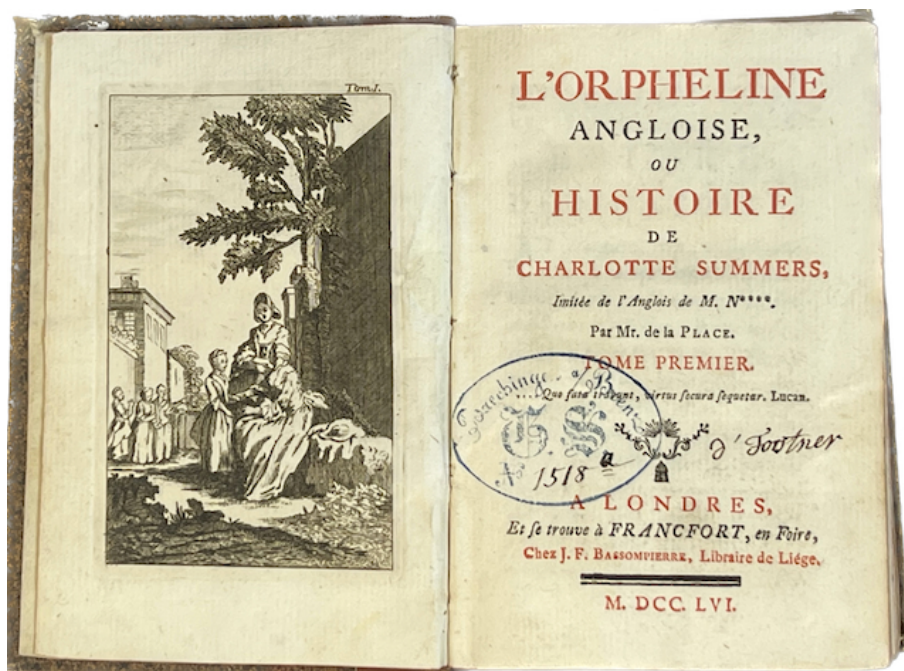
22. [LA PLACE, PIERRE-ANTOINE DE, TRANSLATOR]. L'ORPHELINE ANGLOISE, ou Histoire de Charlotte Summers, Imitée de l'Anglois de M. N\*\*\*\*. Par Mr. de la Place. Tome premier [- quatrième]. A Londres et se trouve à Francfort, en Foire: Chez J.F. Bassompierre, Libraire de Liège., MDCCLVI [-II, 1756-7]. £500

Second Edition in French. *Four volumes in two, 12mo, pp. 241, [1] table; 248, [2] table; 214, [1] table, [1] blank; 261, [1] table; with engraved frontispiece to each volume, included in each case in pagination; old stamp "G.S Baechingen an der Brenz" on title-page of volumes one and three, old ownership signature "d' Forstner" on title-page of volume one; aside from some sporadic light browning, clean and fresh throughout; in contemporary German calf-backed boards, spine with raised bands and paper labels with titles in a contemporary hand; light wear, but an attractive copy.*



A good copy, in an attractive contemporary German binding, of this early French adaptation of *The History of Charlotte Summers, the Fortunate Parish Girl*, which had first appeared in English in 1749 and is often attributed, probably erroneously, to Sarah Fielding.

The basics of the plot would feel familiar to any reader of *Tom Jones*, and the eponymous heroine can be seen perhaps as a sister to the foundling of that novel. Certainly, there are many allusions throughout the book to Fielding's novel; indeed, the *Avertissement* here is quite explicit in aiming at the same readership: 'Bornons-nous donc à dire, que notre but, ainsi que dans *Tom Jones*, en accomodant cet Ouvrage sans le dénaturer au gout François, ne tend qu'à marquer au Public une reconnoissance légitime, en tâchant d'ajouter à ses plaisirs'. This French version was also the basis of a Russian translation, which appeared in 1763.



The frontispieces to each volume are in imitation of those which appeared in the first French translation (Londres et se trouve à Paris chez Rollin & Prault, 1751). The present copy may have come through the library of Countess Franziska von Hohenheim (1748-1811), who acquired the estate at Bächingen an der Brenz in Bavaria in 1790 on becoming Duchess of Württemberg.

*ETSC: T229884, records copies at the BL and the Silesian Library in Katowice; OCLC adds the Swedish Royal Library, the BnF, and the Zentralbibliothek at Solothurn.*

**The engraver's copy?**

**23. [LAW]. EX JURE CIVILI.** Collection of three dissertations, divided into 52 theses presented by law students at Turin. Turin: Ignazio Soffietti, 1773. **£950**

FIRST EDITIONS. 8vo, containing 52 theses of between 8 and 15 pages each, divided into three sections; each thesis with an elaborate engraved headpiece and either a tailpiece or a full-page engraving, many signed 'Constantinus' (see below); manuscript list of contents at end; some foxing and browning in places; ownership signature of Constantin on first page and on front free endpaper; a few contemporary annotations to one thesis; in contemporary sheep, spine gilt in compartments, raised bands, skiver lettering-pieces (one with 'Tom I'); boards and extremities somewhat worn.

An interesting collection of dissertations on civil law presented by students at the law faculty of the University of Turin.





The volume contains three *dissertationes*, each of which is divided up into theses, all of which are separately paginated, and which discuss the nature and division of law, the role of statute, the ways of interpreting laws, and the responsibilities and position of the judiciary. A full listing of the theses, all of which are either very rare or unrecorded, is available on request.

What makes the present volume especially interesting is its condition: the title-pages of each of the theses has been removed, so each begins with the text, under an engraved headpiece signed 'Constantinus' (sometimes with scul added, sometimes fec, and sometimes the date 1771). The ownership signature of Constantin on the front free endpaper and the first page of the volume suggest that this copy was bound specially for the engraver, who appears also to have been a bookseller and print dealer, and who also is credited with the engravings in Alberti di Villanova's *Nouveau dictionnaire françois-italien* of 1788; it might seem that the title-pages of the individual theses were considered superfluous if what Constantin needed was a collection of his own work. Although a lettering-piece on the spine states that this is volume one, it is unknown if any further such volumes were made.

*No contents seemingly recorded by OCLC.*

### Portable penal code

24. [LAW]. SOMMARIO DEL CODICE D DELITTI E DELLE PENE pel Regno d'Italia. Disposto per ordine alfabetico. Milano: Dalla Tipografia di Francesco Sonzogno, 1811. £395

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 112; *aside from some occasional spotting, clean and fresh throughout; uncut and entirely unopened in the original printed wrappers; wrappers lightly worn, but still a very good copy.*

An excellent, unread copy of this glossary of Napoleonic penal code as applied to Italy in 1810.

Organised alphabetically, the *Sommario* gives a brief explanation of each of the crimes and punishments, and some of the technical terms,



contained in the *Codice*, which had been published both by the Stamperia Reale in Milan and by Sonzogno the previous year. In each case, the entry refers to the location in the *Codice*. As an example:

**MURDER [ASSASSINIO]:** Every homicide committed with premeditation or preparation qualifies as murder, 296. It is punished by death, 302. Those who use torture in committing their crimes, or who commit an act of torture, are punished as though guilty of murder, 303.

Where easier, the *Sommario* gives cross-references: for instance, ‘Bollettini’ leads to ‘Scritti’, Boschi to ‘Campi, Incendio, Terreni’.

As far as we are aware, the Stamperia Reale never published an equivalent summary to accompany their printing of the *Codice*; both the Sonzogno *Codice* and the present work remain very uncommon.

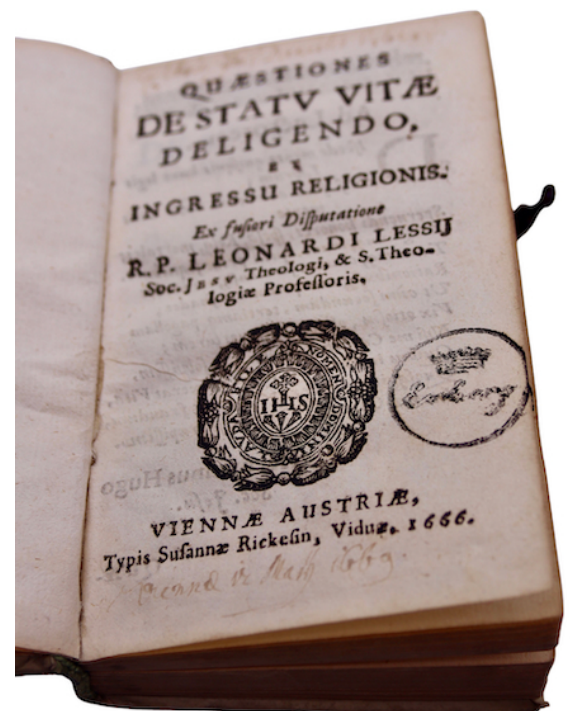
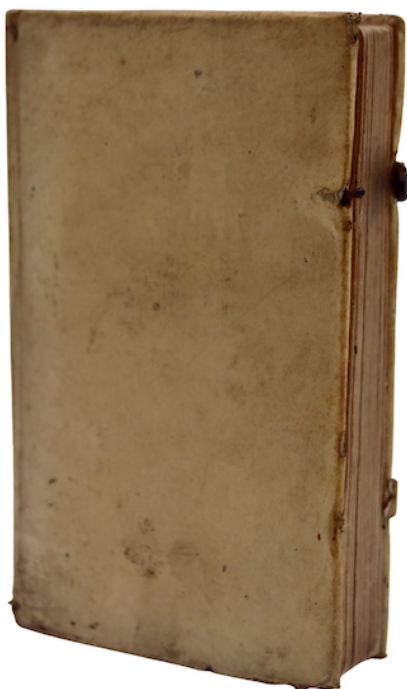
*OCLC records three copies, at Trento, the Università cattolica del Sacro Cuore, and GWU Law Library.*

## Choosing religion

**25. LESSIUS, LEONARDUS. QUAESTIONES DE STATUS VITAE DELIGENDO, ex ingressu religionis. Et fusiori Disputatione R.P. Leonardi Lessii .. Viennae Austriae: Typis Susannae Rickesin, Viduae, 1666. £325**

*12mo, pp. 214, (14); two separate aristocratic library stamps on front free endpaper and on title-page, the latter from the Erberg family, also manuscript ownership, faint, on title, of the Slovenian nobleman Johann Daniel von Erberg, dated 1669; aside from occasional spotting, clean and fresh throughout; in contemporary vellum, with one (of two) metal clasps intact; slight loss to foot of spine and to lower spine, but otherwise a good copy.*

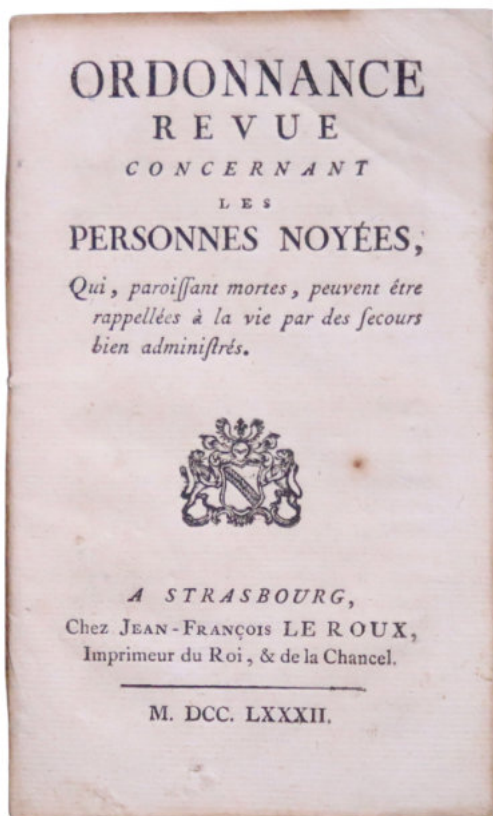
Rare Vienna printing, with an early Slovenian provenance, of this work on the choosing of the religious life by the Dutch Jesuit Leonardus Lessius (1554-1623), first published in Antwerp in 1613.



Lessius had made his reputation as a moral theologian, especially in the field of the ethics of economics and finance, most notably in his *De iustitia et ure* of 1605, but turned in later life to more strictly religious work, of which this is perhaps the best-known example. Over the course of ten questiones, Lessius examines the choice to enter the religious life, discussing, among other matters, cases where a vocation may reflect or conflict with the view of family and parents, how it is possible to discern a vocation, the correct age for boys and girls to enter religious orders, and whether it is a sin to dissuade someone from entering the religious life.

The present edition was printed by Susanna Rickesin, widow of the printer Matthäus Rickhes, who had died in 1661. Rickesin had continued as printer to the University until 1669. This copy bears the ownership inscription of Johann Daniel von Erberg (1647-1716), originally from Koceve in Slovenia and later the owner of the Dol estate near Ljubljana. If his ownership of the book at the age of 22 suggests a temptation to enter the Church, it must have been a brief one, as he married twice.

*VD17 12:106426R; OCLC records copies at the BSB and the Staatliche Bibliothek Neuburg Donau.*



### Tobacco to the rescue

26. [LIFE-SAVING]. ORDONNANCE REVUE CONCERNANT LES PERSONNES NOYÉES, qui, paroissant mortes, peuvent être rappellées à la vie par des secours bien administrés. A Strasbourg: Chez Jean-François Le Roux, MDCCLXXXII [1782]. £200

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. 22; woodcut title vignette and head-piece; punch-mark to foot and browning to head, not affecting text, stain to final blank, but otherwise clean and crisp; unbound as issued.

Rare set of instructions issued by the city authorities in Strasbourg for the resuscitation of drowning victims.

Although guidance on the subject had been issued by the city five years earlier, the authorities had been surprised to discover that it had had little effect, possibly on account of the widespread belief that it was impossible to revive those who appeared dead, and partly because of failings in instruction.

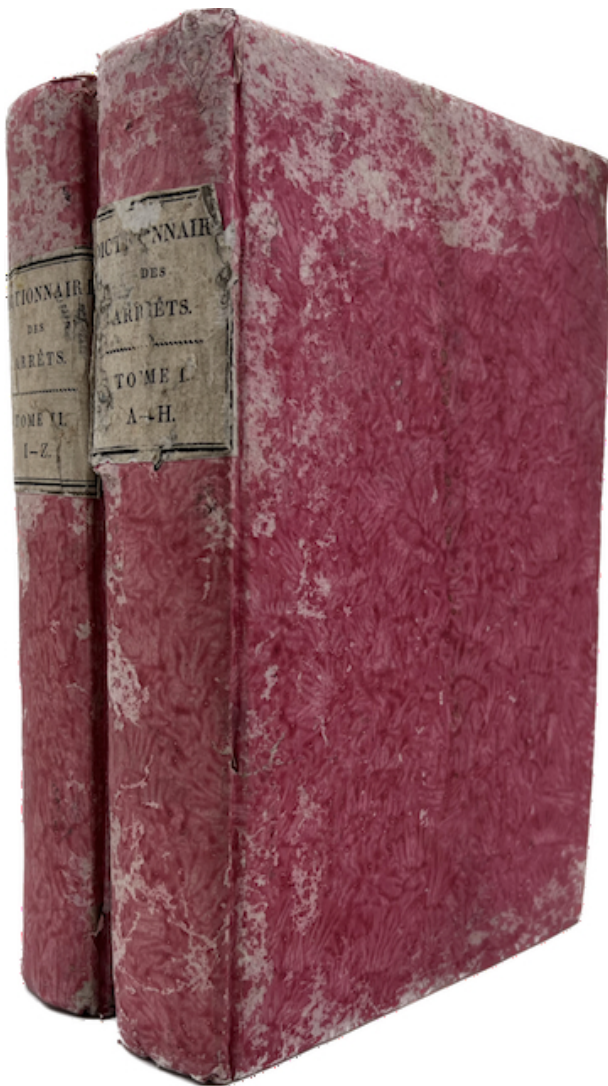
This new *Ordonnance* is designed to rectify some of these flaws, and especially to emphasise the possibility of reviving seemingly drowned people. Over 21 brief articles, the work offers guidance on how to remove bodies from water, how to keep them warm, the procedure for resuscitation and the various precautions to be observed; it describes how to use both tobacco smoke and smelling salts, and how to rub a body to keep it warm. Preventative measures are also prescribed, with guards at various places on the river, and boxes with life-saving equipment (tobacco, camphor, towels and soap), clearly marked 'Boîtes pour les Noyés' and placed in strategic locations.

*OCLC records copies at the Universities of Haute Alsace and Strasbourg, the BnF, and the National Library of Medicine.*

## Revolutionary jurisprudence, alphabetised

**27. LOISEAU, JEAN SIMON. DICTIONNAIRE DES ARRÊTS MODERNES**, ou Répertoire analytique, sommaire et critique de la nouvelle Jurisprudence française, civile et commerciale; Contenant la Notice des Arrêts les plus importants de la Cour de Cassation depuis 1790 jusqu'en 1809, et de ceux des Cours d'Appel depuis la promulgation du Code Napoléon; Avec un Supplément formant le Dictionnaire des Lois, Décrets impériaux, Avis du Conseil d'Etat, Décisions de LL. EE. les Ministres &c. qui, se rattachant aux nouveaux Coes, en sant le complément indispensable. Tome premier [-second]. Paris: Aux archives du droit français, chez Clament frères, 1809. **£685**

FIRST EDITION. *Two volumes, 8vo, pp. viii, 446; 654, [1] errata, [1] blank; last gathering of volume one slightly browned, otherwise, aside from occasional spotting, clean and crisp throughout; uncut and partly unopened in contemporary pink marbled boards, printed paper lettering-pieces on spines; somewhat rubbed and worn, but still a very attractive copy.*



A very good copy of this comprehensive survey of the judicial decisions of the French courts made in the first two decades after the French Revolution, and especially since the adoption of the Code Napoléon, compiled by the jurist and legal journalist Jean Simon Loiseau (1776-1822).

In his preface, Loiseau emphasises the need for lawyers to be prepared, and up to date with current legal developments. Four works, he suggests, might be helpful: *The Journal du Palais*, the *Jurisprudence de la Cour de cassation* by Sirey, the *Journal des audiences* by Denevers, and the *Jurisprudence du Code Napoléon*. There is, however, a problem: 'Voilà donc 47 volumes qu'il faut tenir successivement, consulter, fouiller, pour connaître avec exactitude l'état de la Jurisprudence sur chaque question douteuse!'. No lawyer will have the time, or the energy, to consult these works, and so the present work is aimed at helping them. The dictionary is presented not a simple table, but as a collection of brief notices on the points of law about which decisions are made, giving in each case the date of the decision and the court which made it, as well as references to the larger works cited. In addition, he offers critical notes where he thinks it helpful. While Loiseau acknowledges that the result is 'beaucoup plus pénible que glorieuse', he hopes it will have achieved its aim.

A second, similarly uncommon edition was published by Nève in 1814.

*Outside Continental Europe, OCLC records just one copy, at Waseda.*



## A Bonapartist assassin

28. [LOUVEL, LOUIS PIERRE]. L.-P. LOUVEL DEVANT LA COUR DE PARIS ou Instruction du Procès de l'exécrable assassin de S.A.R. Mgr le duc de Berri; suivi des pièces, notes, renseignements, faits, anecdotes y relatifs; sa condamnation à mort et son exécution en place de Grève. A Paris: Chez Tiger, c.1825. £300

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. 107, [1] blank; with folding engraved frontispiece; clean and fresh throughout; uncut in contemporary orange marbled wrappers; handwritten paper label on spine; tear without loss to upper corner of upper wrapper, else a very good copy.

A good copy of this uncommon account of the trial of Louis Pierre Louvel, the assassin of Charles Ferdinand Duc de Berry in 1820.

The Duke, the third son of Charles X, was leaving the Paris opera on February 13, 1820, when he was stabbed by Louis Pierre Louvel, who was immediately arrested. Louvel (1783-1820) had served with the artillery from 1806 and was an avowed supporter of Napoleon, and his hostility to the Bourbon restoration grew throughout his time working as a saddler in the royal stables, a role he had taken up in 1815.

The present work, illustrated with a folding frontispiece depicting both the trial and the assassination itself, is one of several accounts of the trial, which unsurprisingly drew a great deal of attention throughout France. A transcript of the proceedings is accompanied by a number of observations of Louvel's conduct and demeanour, including his anger at his guards and his repeated claims of 'Ce n'est pas ma faute'; the work concludes with a brief account of his execution by guillotine, despite the dying Duke's wish that his murdered be pardoned.

OCLC records copies at the BnF and the US Military Academy at West Point (the latter with 90 pages).



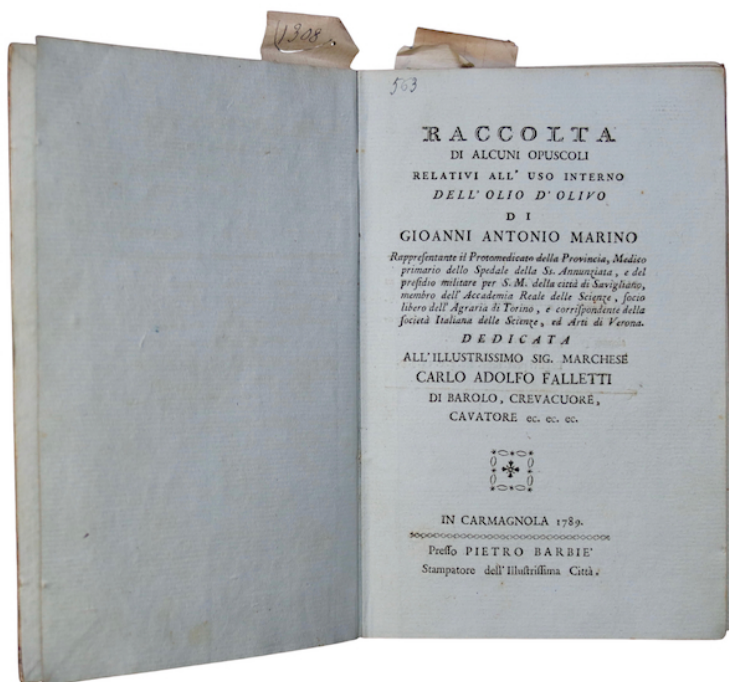
## Olive oil: the cure of many ills

**29. MARINO, GIOANNI ANTONIO.** RACCOLTA DI ALCUNI OPUSCOLI RELATIVI ALL'USO INTERNO DELL' OLIO D'OLIVO. Dedicata all'illustrissimo Sig. Marchese Carlo Adolfo Falletti di Barolo, Cervacuore, Cavatore ec. ec. ec. In Carmagnola: Presso Pietro Barbié, 1789. £695

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. xiv, 76, [2] index and imprimatur; entirely printed on blue paper; small stain to p. 11, but otherwise clean and fresh throughout; in contemporary marbled wrappers; extremities lightly worn but an attractive copy nonetheless.

A lovely copy, finely printed on blue paper, of this collection of essays on the medical uses and health benefits of olive oil, edited by the Piedmont physician Giovanni Antonio Marino, with the aim of bolstering his own enthusiasm for olive oil with the backing of other noted 18th-century authorities.

The volume contains five essays. The first, by Marino himself, discusses the effectiveness of olive oil in the treatment of inflammatory arthritis, through the use of numerous case studies. This is followed by a paper given by Matteo Georgi in 1705 on the use of olive oil in fevers, along with a brief extract from his *Summa institutionum rationalis medicinae* of the same year, and then an extract from Vincenzo Pozzi's analysis of olive oil, which had previously appeared in the *Opuscoli dell' Instituto di Bologna* in 1783. The final essay is again by Marino, and reflects in more detail on the use of olive oil in the treatment of arthritis, both inflammatory and rheumatoid, and in other spasmodic conditions, giving advice on the best ways of using it.



OCLC records three copies outside Italy, at the BnF, NLM, and Berkeley.

## Aide-mémoire for poets

**30. MATHIEU, CHARLES-LÉOPOLD.** DICTIONNAIRE DE RIMES ET DE PRONONCIATION, Où se trouve la quantité de chaque mot, marquée sur chaque syllabe, indiquant la prononciation; une Instruction pour l'application de cette quantité, avec un Abrégé des principales règles de versification française; un Extrait des principales parties de la Grammaire, et une Table explicative des abréviations; un Tableau de la quantité des Rimes à chaque terminaison. Paris: Chez Janet, An VIII [1800]. £400

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. lxxiii, [i] blank, 341, [3] advertisements; aside from some very occasional spotting, and marginal staining to half-title, clean and fresh throughout; a few marginal tears, not affecting text; occasional stamp of the Bibliothèque Charles- Guillon; uncut in contemporary marbled wrappers, handwritten paper lettering-piece on spine; some light wear, but an attractive copy.

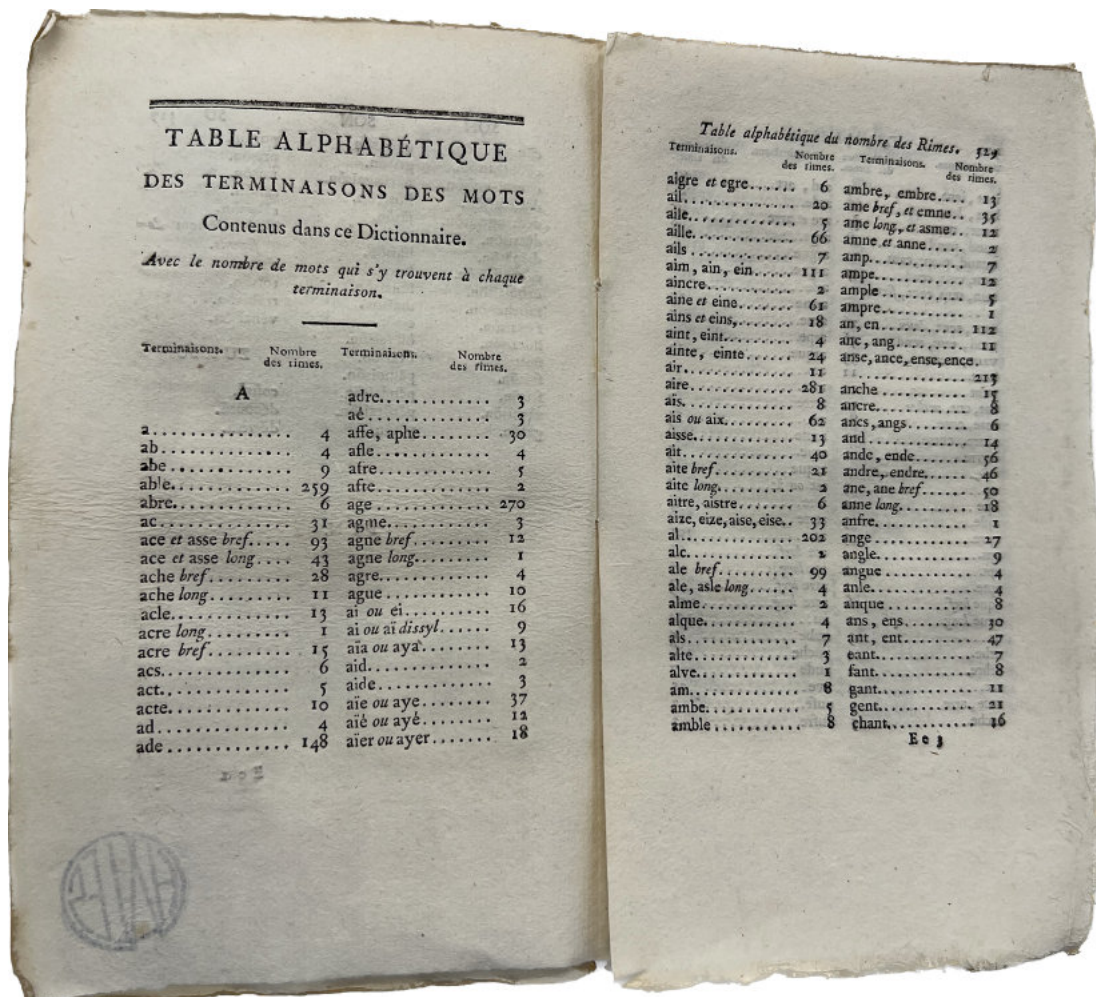
A lovely copy, in contemporary interim wrappers, of this rhyming dictionary by the lawyer and scientist Charles-Léopold Mathieu (born 1756).



In his Preface, Mathieu sets out the purpose of his work as being to aid the memories of poets who might otherwise struggle, while busy with their muse, to find appropriately rhyming words. This is not, he notes, the first book to attempt this: he cites Richelet's earlier work (1667). That, however, was far too unwieldy, both in format and in content, with lots of badly chosen Latin words, dangerously antiquated in both sentiment and orthography, and awash with barbarisms and obsolete words. The present work, on the contrary, seeks both to be useful and to reflect modern usage, both in vocabulary and in pronunciation, as well as, crucially, to be portable, lest a poet might be dissuaded from carrying it due to its weight and in consequence chose the wrong words. Mathieu offers an initial guide to the rules of French versification, a sketch of French grammar (the conjugation of verbs, as well as other parts of speech), and finally an exhaustive dictionary, following the latest orthography laid out by the Académie française, and with the stresses and lengths of every vowel clearly marked.

Mathieu, a native of Nancy described on the title-page as an 'Homme de Loi', taught physics and chemistry at the École Centrale du Département de la Corrèze, but his interests were broad: in addition to the present work, he published on subjects ranging from mining to Roman antiquities, and translated Tibullus.

OCLC records copies at Tilburg University and the Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheek.





### Founder of the Ursulines

**31. MERICI, ANGELA DE.** ABRÉGÉ DE LA VIE de la bienheureuse Angele Merici, fondatrice de l'Institut de Sainte Ursule. A Rome: Chez Generose Salomoni, MDCCLXVIII [1768]. £265

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. 177, [3] tables des chapitres; woodcut vignette on title, woodcut head- and tailpieces and initials; some light browning and spotting in places, but largely clean; with contemporary ownership signature of Sr Magdelaine Felletin in ink on title-page; in contemporary sheep, flat spine gilt with green morocco lettering-piece; some light wear to boards, worming to lower joint, and half-inch loss to foot of spine; despite faults, an appealing copy.

First edition of this short hagiography of the Lombard nun St Angela Merici (1474 -1540), founder in 1535 of the Company of St Ursula, from which the Ursuline order emerged in 1570.

Over the course of fifteen chapters, the work describes St Angela's birth and early days, along with the first signs of her holiness; the death and subsequent appearance in a vision of her sister; her first communion and initial steps into the religious life as a Franciscan tertiary; her virtues and charity towards the secular world; her pilgrimage to the Holy Land and to Rome; and her establishment of the Ursulines. It goes on to give an account of the progress of the new order and the saint's death and its aftermath, before presenting her advice for the exercise of the virtues, the miracles attributed to prayer to her, and her cult.

Angela Merici was canonised by Pius VII in 1807.

OCLC records one copy outside Continental Europe, at Georgetown.

### On religious formation

**32. MIET, CONSTANCE.** CONFÉRENCES RELIGIEUSES pour l'instruction des jeunes professes de tous les ordres. Paris: Chez G. Desprez, MDCCLXXVII [1777]. £385

FIRST EDITION. 12mp, pp. 429, [3] approbation and privilege; occasional spotting, and light dampstain to head of second half of work, not affecting text, but otherwise largely clean; armorial book-plate of a Cardinal Brouchier, of the Minim order, on front paste-down; in contemporary calf; spine gilt in compartments with raised bands; boards and spine somewhat rubbed.

Uncommon set of reflections on the religious life, designed to aid in the formation of newly professed monks of all orders.

CONFÉRENCES  
RELIGIEUSES  
POUR  
L'INSTRUCTION  
DES  
JEUNES PROFESSES  
DE TOUS LES ORDRES.  
PAR LE P. MIET, DE VESOUL



A PARIS,  
Chez G. DESPREZ, Imprimeur ordinaire  
du Roi & du Clergé de France, rue  
Saint-Jacques.

M. DCC. LXXVII.  
Avec Approbation, & Privilège du Roi.

After an initial essay on the renunciation and mistrust of worldly affairs, Miet's twenty-five *conférences* are split into two sections, dealing in turn with the exterior and the interior lives. The first part deals with the love of neighbour, the observance of the rule, the practice of mercy, and the practical, daily aspects of the religious life: the choir, behaviour in the refectory, conduct during recreation, obedience to superiors, and the importance and advantages of keeping silence. The second examines the spirit and efficacy of prayer, self-examination, confession, communion, preparation for Mass, submission to the will of God, and finally plenary indulgences.

The author, Constance Miet, was a friar of the order of Recollects, a branch of the Franciscans that was absorbed into the larger order in 1897. He was also the author of *Réflexions morales d'un solitaire* (Paris, 1775). The present work was reprinted in 1857.

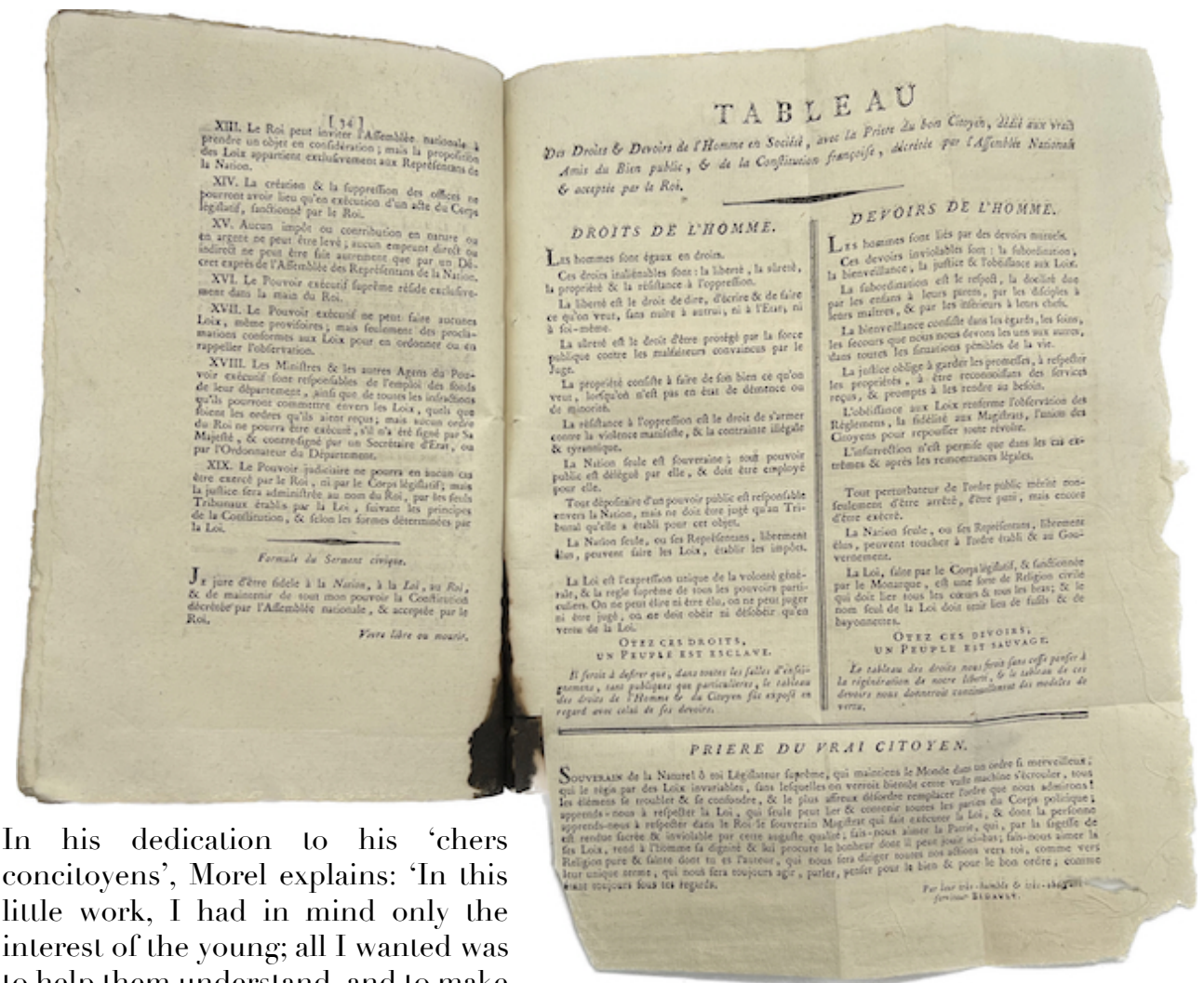
OCLC records copies at Strasbourg, Dillingen, Augsburg, and the BnF.

## Teaching the constitution

33. MOREL DE VINDÉ, CHARLES-GILBERT. CATÉCHISME DE LA CONSTITUTION FRANÇOISE ou principes de la constitution, Mis à la portée des jeunes-gens, avec un Tableau des Droits & Devoirs de l'Homme, la Priere du vrai bon Citoyen, & terminé par la formule du Serment civique décrété par l'Assemblée nationale. Auquel on a ajouté en notes la liste des Corps administratifs du Département de la Côte d'Or, avec celles des membres de tous les Tribunaux de Justice de ce Département, séans à Dijon; précédé d'une Délibération du même Département, concernant les Prix d'encouragement accordés aux Ecoles publiques. Suivi de la Déclaration des Droits de l'Homme & du Citoyen, mise à la portée de tout le monde, & comparée avec les vrais principes de toute Société. A Dijon: Chez Bidault et se trouve a Autun, chez Cormiers, MDCCXCI [1791]. £295

8vo, pp. 56; with folding table after page 34; ink stain to gutter at foot throughout, not affecting text; some dustsoiling in places, especially to first few leaves, and the odd marginal tear, with one inch paper loss to foot of G1 but no loss of text; in contemporary blue wrappers, somewhat frayed.

First edition of this explanatory catechism of the revolutionary French constitution, by the magistrate, agronomist, and politician Charles-Gilbert Morel de Vindé (1759 -1842).



In his dedication to his 'chers concitoyens', Morel explains: 'In this little work, I had in mind only the interest of the young; all I wanted was to help them understand, and to make easy for them, the principles on which our Constitution rests'. With this in mind, he is rather more thorough in his setting out of his catechism than many other authors, who often aim at propaganda rather than education; he explains the different types of government, the relations of legislative, executive, and judicial power, the importance of a constitution founded on the rights of man and the citizen (and what these rights are), and the nature of equality and inequality. He goes on to explain the roles of the courts, the armed forces, martial law, and the structure of local and national government.

A folding leaf sets out the basis of the rights and duties of man in society (and the warning that without the rights, a people is enslaved, while without the duties, a people is savage), along with a 'Prière du vrai citoyen' by the printer Bidault, while the volume also contains extracts from the meeting of the administrative assembly for the Côte d'Or department, discussing the establishment and distribution of school prizes, as well as a short catalogue of useful books with their Paris prices.

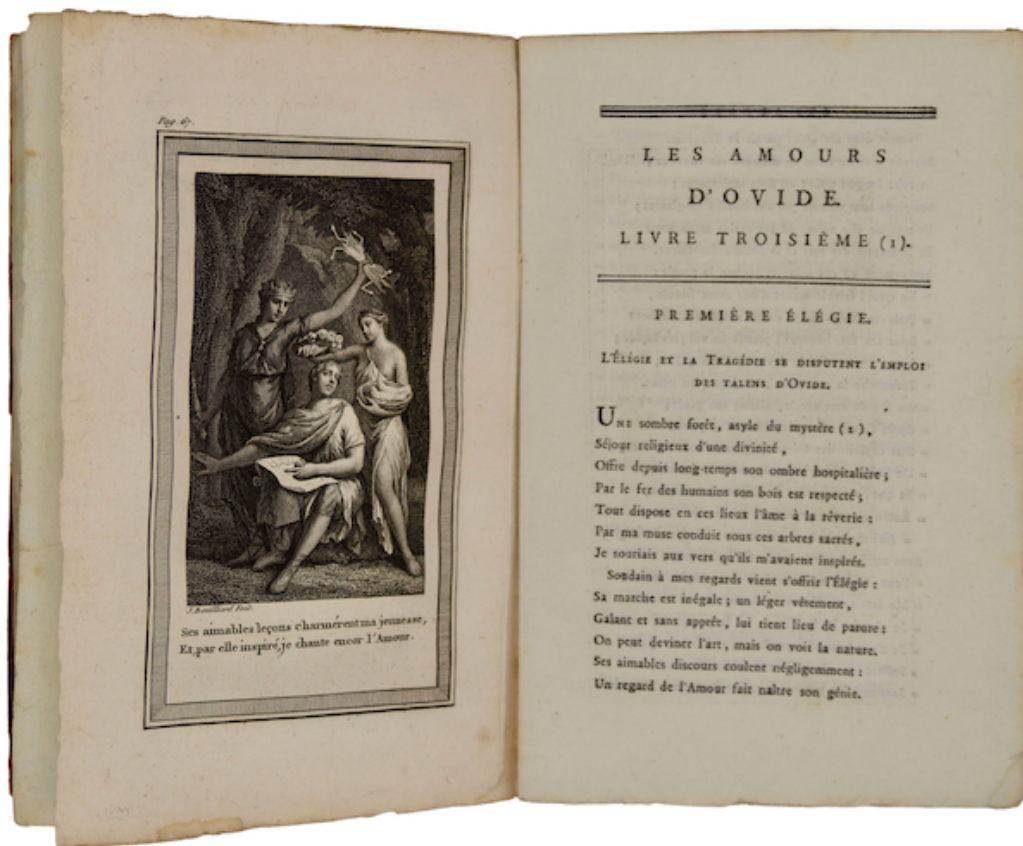
*Not in OCLC.*

## A diffident translator

34. OVID. LES AMOURS D'OVIDE, traduction libre en vers français; suivis du Remède d'Amour, Poëme en deux chants, imité d'Ovide: ornés de quatre gravures par J. Bouillard. A Paris: Chez Égron, imprimeur, successeur de la veuve Valade, An VII [1799]. £385

FIRST EDITION THUS. 8vo, pp. 16, 203, [1] blank; with four engraved plates; occasional light spotting, and upper margin slightly yellowed, but otherwise clean and crisp throughout; ownership signature of Albert Priou on verso of half-title; uncut and in places unopened in later red wrappers, handwritten paper label on spine; light wear, but still a good copy.

First edition of this rare verse translation of Ovid's *Amores*, attributed by the BnF to P.-M.-L. Le Marcis, and illustrated with four engravings by Jacques Bouillard (1744 -1806).



Little appears known of Le Marcis, and his introduction does not shed much biographical light, but rather offers a sketch of Ovid's life in order to put his erotic poetry in context, followed by a survey of some of the French translations, and imitations, that had previously appeared. Those who would like to know what prompted the present translation are out of luck: 'I will keep quiet about the circumstances under which this translation was made, my motives for undertaking it, and the name of the person to whom I have dedicated it. These details, these memories that are precious to me, might possess some charm for my friends; but they would be devoid of interest for the unknown reader ...'.

*Outside Continental Europe, OCLC records copies at McGill, Missouri, and the V&A.*

## Bringing physics up to date



35. PAULIAN, AIMÉ-HENRI. DICTIONNAIRE DES NOUVELLES DÉCOUVERTES FAITES EN PHYSIQUE pour servir de supplément aux différentes éditions du Dictionnaire de Physique. Dédié au Roi. Ouvrage où l'on fait l'examen critique de ces nouvelles découvertes, & la réfutation de la partie physique du Livre intitulé: *Système de la Nature*. A Nîmes: Chez Gaude, & à Avignon, chez J.J. Niel, MDCCLXXXVII [1787]. £650

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. [iv], xxxviii, [ii], 523, [2] approbations, [1] blank; with one folding table and one folding leaf of plates depicting Montgolfier's balloons; a few lines of contemporary manuscript annotations to two pages; occasional marginal staining, spotting, and dustsoiling but largely clean and fresh throughout; uncut in contemporary dominoté wrappers; loss to half of spine (showing cords), and covers loose but holding; extremities chipped and worn, but still an attractive if well-used copy.

Uncommon updating, to take into account many of the scientific developments of the second half of the eighteenth century, of Paulian's famous *Dictionnaire de physique*, which had first appeared in 1761 and gone through several editions up to 1781.

Aimé-Henri Paulian (1722-1801) was a Jesuit who taught at the Society's college at Avignon. Although he published numerous works on physical and philosophical subjects, including a *Système général de philosophie, extrait des ouvrages de Descartes et de Newton* (1769), he is best known for his series of scientific dictionaries: not only the *Dictionnaire de physique*, but also a *Dictionnaire philosopho-théologique portatif* (1770) and, before any of the others, a *Dictionnaire de physique portatif*, first published in 1759.

In the present work, Paulian seeks to bring up to date his previous works, and much of his focus is on matters which were quite new, notably the experiments recently made with hot air balloons, which are here illustrated on the folding plate. Even under the letter A, there are five articles that had not previously appeared: *Age du monde*, *Aréostat*, *Alkali volatil fluor*, *Asphyxie* and *Alembert*. Paulian aims more than simply to update his earlier work, however: throughout, he is keen to address and refute some of the arguments put forward by Holbach in his *Système de la Nature*. This had been the subject of articles in the previous dictionary, but Paulian had not been happy with his response, and in writing the present work, he took a different approach: 'Il faut absolument, me suis-je dit à moi-même, attaquer directement la partie physique de cet ouvrage, la renverser & par-là pulvériser ce fameux, cet indigne *Système*. C'est-là ce qu'j'ai heureusement exécuté dans un très-grand nombre d'articles de ce *Supplément*...'

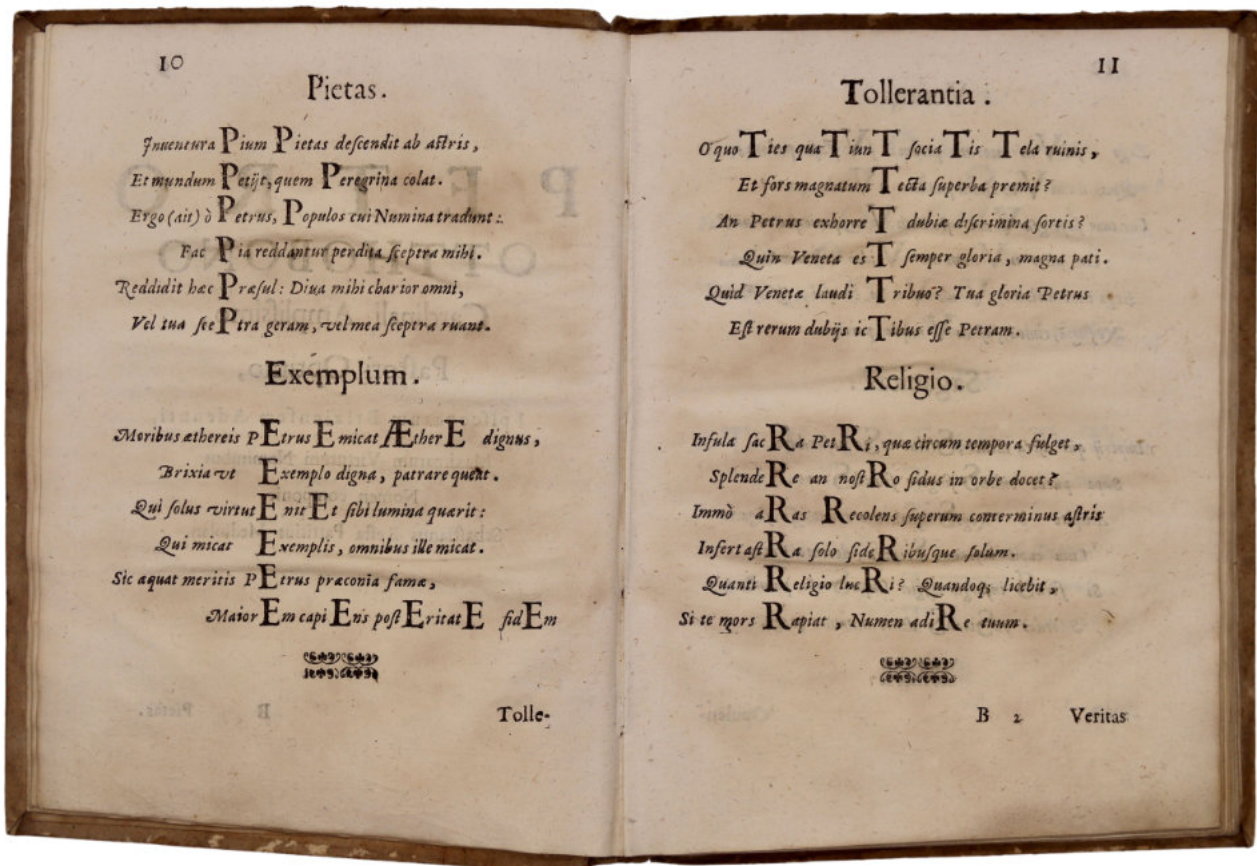
*Outside Continental Europe, OCLC locates copies at USC, Indiana, Harvard, the Smithsonian, the National Library of Wales, Strathclyde, the Wellcome, and UCL.*



## Arrival of a future pope

36. PELLICCIOLI, CARLO. APPLAUSI POETICI nella venuta dell' Emin. mo e Rever. mo Sig. r Cardinale Pietro Ottobono al Vescovato di Brescia. Raccolti dall' eccellentissimo Sig. Dottore Carlo Pelliccioli, e dal medemo dedicati all' immortal fama di Sua Eminenza. In Venetia: appresso Andrea Giuliani, MDCLV [1655]. £685

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. 17, [1] blank, 9-47, [1] blank, 39, [1] blank, 39, [1] blank; engraved arms of Cardinal Ottoboni on title-page, various woodcut head- and tailpieces throughout; first few leaves foxed and browned, but otherwise largely clean; in contemporary carta rustica; covers heavily browned and dustsoiled, remains of old shelf-label at head of spine; both book-block and binding trimmed at an angle at foot, only affecting lower margin.



First edition, rare, of this collection of verses marking the consecration as Bishop of Brescia of Cardinal Pietro Ottoboni, later Pope Alexander VIII (1670-1691).

Ottoboni, of a noted Venetian aristocratic family, was appointed Bishop of Brescia in 1654 and consecrated the following year, having already been made a cardinal in 1652 by Innocent X. He remained in Brescia for ten years before resigning in 1664, whereupon he took a number of ecclesiastical roles in Rome prior to his election as Pope in 1687 (a papacy that was not wholly successful).

The present volume is edited by Carlo Pelliccioli, and includes verses by prominent figures including the Roman printer Giovanni Battista de' Rossi, the milanese nobleman Sebastiano Resta, and many others, including a number where the author is simply stated as 'incerta', ranging from throwaway couplets to a 25-stanza panegyric by Giovanni Giacomo Piatti entitled 'Brescia consolata'. Especially appealing is the initial set of verses devoted to Ottoboni's name, with each letter of his name representing a virtue (Pietas, Exemplum, Tollerantia, Religio,



Veritas, Sagacitas) and each verse being formed around repetitions of the letter itself.

The work opens with a prose introduction by the Friuli historian and churchman Basilio Zancarolo (born c.1600), who places Ottoboni and his family in their correct place in Venetian history and society, noting their part in the expansion of Venetian power down the Adriatic to Greece (Zancarolo was born in Crete, and as Alexander VIII, Ottoboni was later to fund, enthusiastically, the Venetian reconquest of present-day Albania).

*SBN records two copies in Italy, at the Marciana in Venice and the University Library at Genoa; not in OCLC.*

### Christian morals

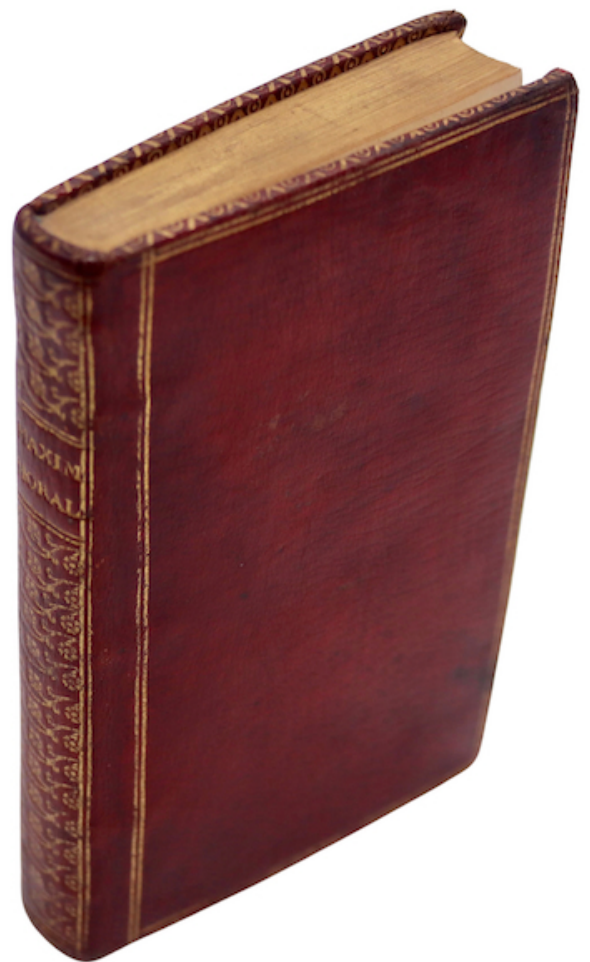
37. [PLISSON, MARIE-PRUDENCE]. MAXIMES MORALES D'UN PHILOSOPHE CHRETIEN. Ouvrage qui peut servir de suite à la Collection des Moralistes anciens. Par M.D. A Rome, & se trouve à Paris: Chez Lamy, MDCCLXXXIII [1783].      £650

FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. [iv], 243, [1] contents, [1] approbation, [1] blank; woodcut headpieces; marginal browning to half-title, but otherwise clean and crisp throughout; in contemporary red morocco, boards bordered in gilt, spine gilt, and all edges gilt; a few marks to covers, and corners very lightly bumped, but still a very attractive copy.

First edition of the final published work by the novelist, essayist, mathematician, and midwife Marie-Prudence Plisson (1727-1788).

The present work is very much that of a Christian moralist, drawing heavily on ancient writers in her discussion of justice, happiness, the ways in which New Testament ethics happily align with the demands of reason, and the necessity of charity in the Christian life. This is not entirely in keeping with much of the rest of Plisson's output; she is best known today for her *Réflexions critiques sur les écrits qu'a produits la légitimité des naissances tardives* of 1765, in which she entered a debate about the normal length of a pregnancy, arguing that many of the arguments put forward by contemporary physicians were flawed by virtue of male bias, and that such conceptual bias had real and adverse effects on the lives of women. This interest in practicalities is also demonstrated in her *Projet pour soulager la misère des pauvres dans les campagnes* of 1758.

*Quérard vol 7, p. 216; outside Continental Europe, OCLC records just two physical copies, at NYPL and Cambridge.*



### Inspired by Piazzi



**38. POLI, GIUSEPPE SAVERIO. VIAGGIO CELESTE**  
Poema astronomico del tenente colonnello Giuseppe Saverio Poli ... Illustrato con annotazione dallo stesso autore. Parte prima [- seconda]. Napoli: nella stamperia reale, 1805. £1150

FIRST EDITION. *Two volumes, 8vo, pp. xxxvi, 120; 211, [1] blank; engraved vignettes on title-pages, and woodcut headpieces; some foxing in places, especially to titles, but otherwise largely clean; in contemporary paper-backed marbled boards; some dustsoiling to spine, with chips to head and foot, but still an attractive copy.*

Only edition, rare, of this allegorical poem describing a voyage through the heavens, by the physicist and natural historian Giuseppe Saverio Poli (1746-1825).

The origins of Poli's voyage lie in an ode he dedicated to his friend, the astronomer Giuseppe Piazzi, to mark Piazzi's discovery in 1801 of the dwarf planet Ceres. This led, as described in the preface, to this much more substantial work, in which Poli imagines a voyage throughout space, guided by the goddess Urania, who escorts him through the planets and their moons, around the sun, and through comets and stars. Over five *canti*, Poli attempts to provide a comprehensive guide to the progress of modern astronomy from Galileo and Newton

through to the new discoveries of Heinrich Wilhelm and, naturally, of Piazzi, in terms that would be easily accessible to a lay reader. With this aim in mind, the actual poem takes up rather less than half of the work, with the rest dedicated to extensive explanatory notes, explaining not only the context of the astronomical discoveries but also the many allusions to writers from Ovid to Dante.

Poli, a native of Molfetta in Puglia, taught physics for many years at the Royal Military Academy in Naples, and is best known for his six-volume *Elementi di Fisica Sperimentale* of 1781, which saw several editions well into the nineteenth century. He also published on meteorology, geology, and zoology, with his natural history collection forming the basis of the Zoological Museum of Naples.

*OCLC records just one copy outside Italy, at the Kongelige Bibliotek in Copenhagen.*

### The blind philosopher

**39. RANGONI, JEAN BAPTISTE DE. ESSAI SUR LA NATURE DE L'HOMME** ou le philosophe aveugle. Qui recherche, dans le Champ de l'obscurité et des doutes, les vérités qui regardent sont être etc. Première [-seconde] partie ... Par Monsieur l'ex-Marquis Jean B.te de Rangoni de Marseille originaire de Modène. Florence: de l'Imprimerie Impériale, 1809. £450



FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. xvi, 247, [1] blank; some spotting and browning in places throughout, but never heavy; uncut and largely unopened in contemporary interim wrappers; old paper shelf-lable on spine; wrappers slightly frayed and spine sunned; old book-plate of the Ricasoli-Firidolfi family on verso of title-page.

First edition, rare, of this substantial philosophical essay by the Modenese nobleman Giovanni Battista Rangoni, better known for his 1790 work on musical aesthetics, *Saggio sul gusto della musica col carattere de' tre celebri sonatori di violino i signori Nardini, Lolli, e Pugani*.

In the present work, divided into two parts, Rangoni discusses the existence of God, the soul in ancient philosophy, the nature of instinct and habit, the relation of memory to imagination, the origins of both sensations and ideas, the origins of physical objects, the possibility of miracles, the nature of will, whether matter has always existed and will always exist, the nature of reason, the origins of virtue and vice, the passions, and the relationship of taste to genius. The blind philosopher of the title is, Descartes-like, to be led away from doubts by the establishment of certain certainties, but it is Locke, Spinoza, Leibniz, Malebranche, and Bonnet who provide most of Rangoni's reference points.

Rangoni was born into a prominent Modenese noble family, but had moved to Marseille after the Napoleonic occupation of Italy and the removal of feudal privileges; in his 1790 work identified as 'Signor Marchese Giovanni Batista Rangoni', here the title-page is very precise in describing him as 'Monsieur l'ex-Marquis'.

OCLC records copies at Arizona, Manchester, Lille, Montpellier, the BnF, and the Italian Jesuit Province.

### With an interesting Danish provenance

40. ROUSSEAU, JEAN-JACQUES. *ÉMILE, ou de l'éducation*. Tome Premier [- quatrième]. A Amsterdam: , MDCCLXXIII [1773]. £295

Four volumes in two, 12mo, pp. [iv], viii, 280; [ii], 211, [25] index; [iv], 208; [ii], 275, [15] index, [2] catalogue; with five engraved plates, and woodcut head- and tailpieces; occasional annotations to start; paper uniformly lightly browned, some light spotting and foxing in places, but otherwise largely clean; in slightly later (Scandinavian?) half calf, marbled boards; gilt lettering pieces on spines; corners bumped and boards worn; with the ownership signature of the Danish novelist and journalist Ella Hancke on front free endpapers.

*Ella Hancke*  
26 / 11 96. 11160



Uncommon pirate edition, based on Néaulme's edition of 1772 and with the same plates, of Rousseau's classic work on the education of the young.

This copy bears the ownership signature, dated 1896, of the Danish novelist and journalist Ella Melbye (née Hancke, 1877-1960). Her first novel, *Ruth Erlandsen*, was published in 1899, but she is best known now for her translations into Danish of works by Upton Sinclair, Anna Katherine Green, H. Rider Haggard, and Meredith Nicholson. She also worked as a journalist, spending time in Russia shortly after the Revolution, and published a guide to Palestine for Jewish settlers (*Rejs til Palaestina*, Copenhagen 1937).

*McEachern 24; OCLC records just one copy outside Continental Europe, at Cambridge.*

## Education as treatment

41. [SCHALBACHER, PHILIPP JOSEPH]. JOURNAL DE CHRISTINE. Paris et Leipzig: Bossange frères, c.1825. £685

FIRST EDITION? Oblong 8vo, pp. [ü], iv, 5-134, with engraved title-page and six hand-coloured aquatints; some light foxing, mainly marginal, but otherwise clean; in the original blue printed boards; a few marks to upper cover, and corners slightly bumped, but still an attractive copy.



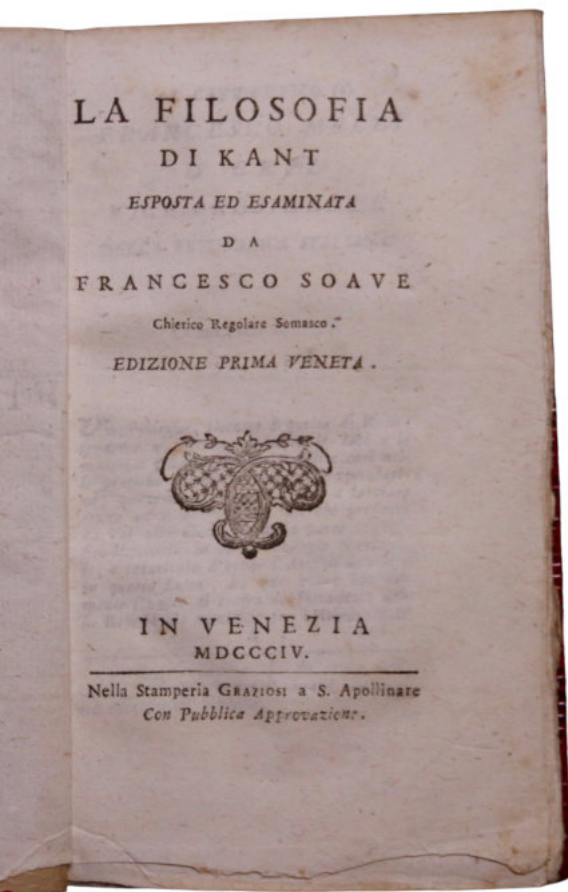
A good copy of this uncommon educational work, attributed by Barbier to the Viennese printer Philipp Joseph Schalbacher and translated by the politician, economist, and prolific translator François Jean Philibert Aubert de Vitry (1765 -1849).

Telling the story of the education of two siblings, a boy of five and a girl of four, who are encouraged by their father to pursue their interests without too much in the way of parental interference, so that he might be able to identify the ways in which they best learn. The preface describes the book as, in some ways, a case history of an illness: ‘one regards this sort of book as useful when it has been written by an attentive observer, since then one finds not only an account of the course of the illness, but also an indication of the attempted cures which have had no success, as well as those which have succeeded. The story of a practical education offers the same type of utility, in showing us moral illnesses, and the remedies applied to them’ (p. ii).

Consisting then of a series of little stories and dialogues, and numerous short lessons addressed both to the four-year-old Christine and her older brother Ernest, the Journal offers a running commentary on the two children’s upbringing and behaviour; an appendix, attributed to Adolphe Bossange, tells us that Christine, now twelve, will, by the time she is eighteen, be ‘presque autant recherchée que son père est respecté’.

We have been unable to identify the German work of which this claims to be a translation. A later edition, of 128 pages, appeared in Paris in 1837.

*Barbier II, 1010; OCLC records copies at the BnF, Texas A&M, and the Morgan, with a later edition at Princeton.*



### Kant misunderstood in Italy

**42. SOAVE, FRANCESCO. LA FILOSOFIA DI KANT** esposta ed esaminata. Edizione prima veneta. In Venezia: nella Stamperia Graziosi, MDCCCIV [1804]. £395

FIRST VENICE EDITION. 8vo, pp. 116; woodcut vignette on title; some light staining to last couple of leaves, but otherwise clean; crudely bound in recent maroon wrappers.

Very uncommon first Venetian printing of a surprisingly uncommon book, first published in Modena the previous year, and one of the last works of the philosopher, translator, and sometime tutor of Manzoni, Francesco Soave (1743-1806).

In Italian philosophical circles, Soave had made his name with his translations of Locke in the 1770s, and his empiricist instincts are very much present in his treatment of Kant’s philosophy. The dedication, to Francesco Melzi d’Eril, sets out Soave’s stall, calling Kant’s philosophy one ‘that tends to destroy all the ideas and the maxims that had been most firmly established, both in the practical and in the speculative sciences’. Soave, noting that Kant had been largely ignored in France and Italy until the publication of

Villers' *Philosophie de Kant ou Principes fondamentaux de la philosophie transcendale* in 1801, relies heavily on this latter work, while noting the Latin translation that appeared in Leipzig in 1796-7. The first part of the book attempts to set out the fundamentals of Kant's critical philosophy; the second part examines the theories, in turn, of pure sensibility, pure intellect, pure reason, and practical reason, before presenting a critical analysis of the relative merits of experimental and transcendental philosophy. It is unclear that Soave has fully understood Kant: he argues that 'Kant's transcendental philosophy leans, as we have seen, to the view that all the perceptible world is an illusion, that all the representations which we have of objects are pure phenomena, pure appearances, that all the concepts that we form of them are the pure work of our intellect'. The critical philosophy is, for Soave, not much different from Berkeleian idealism; he concludes that 'Kant's transcendental philosophy can only have place in the land of dreams and chimeras'.

*Outside Continental Europe, OCLC records one copy, at Cambridge, with copies of the 1803 Modena edition at Columbia and UCLA.*

### Cost of living crisis

43. [SWISS REPUBLIC]. BITTSCHRIFT AN DIE GESETZGEBUNG der helvetischen einen und untheilbaren Republik. Gedruckt im obern Thurgäu: , 1800. £165

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 8; with woodcut vignette on title and woodcut headpiece; clean and fresh throughout; unbound as issued.

A good copy of this rare petition to the legislators of the recently established Helvetic Republic, from the Canton of Thurgau, in the aftermath of the 1799 Battles of Zürich in the French Revolutionary Wars.

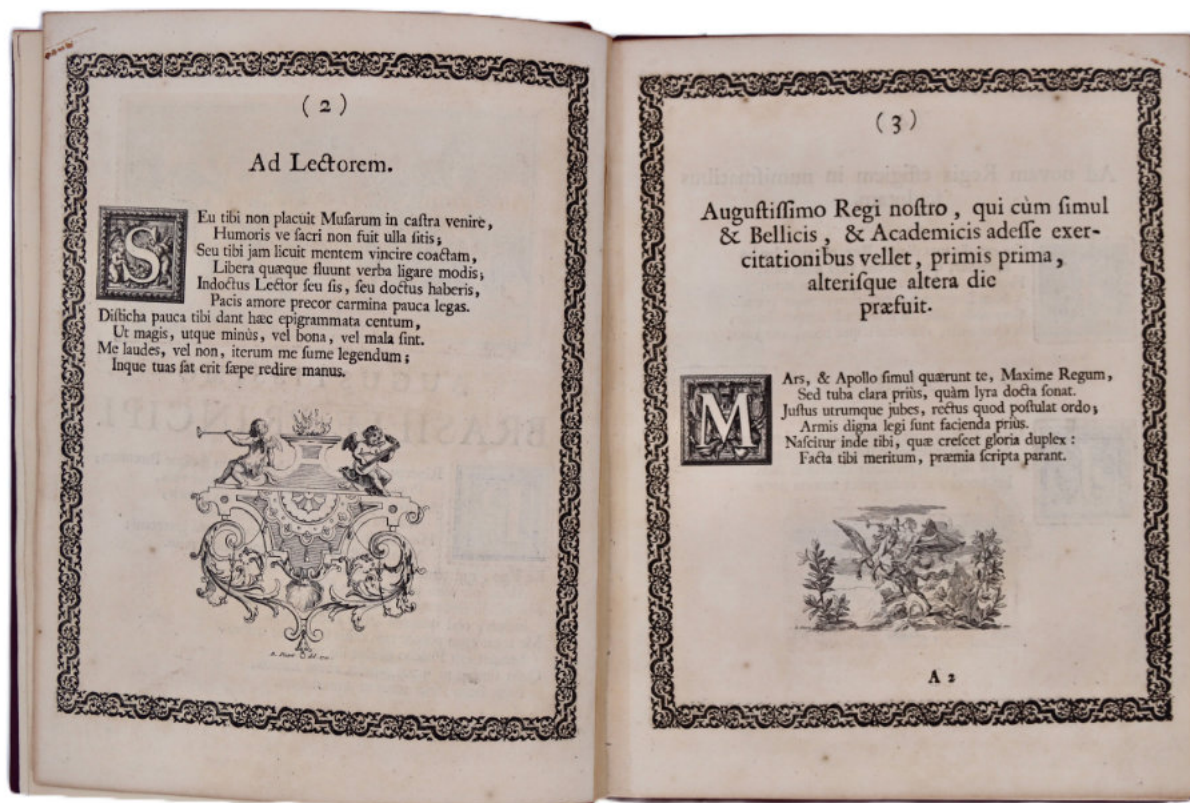
Bemoaning the poverty suffered by the inhabitants of Thurgau, the authors address the Citizen Legislators: 'Should we come with bitter but well-founded complaints to you? Should we tell you how our canton ... suffers the cost of the military? Should we describe to you the misery and distress that comes from a shortage of earnings and the high prices of everyday goods? Shall we set before you the poverty, the exhaustion, the ruin, and all the nameless woes that lie before us, and seems to remain in front of our eyes far into the future?'

Setting out these various miseries, the pamphlet is signed in print by the District Judge and the Municipal President of the Thurgäu canton, with

'Republikanischer Gruß und Hochachtung'.

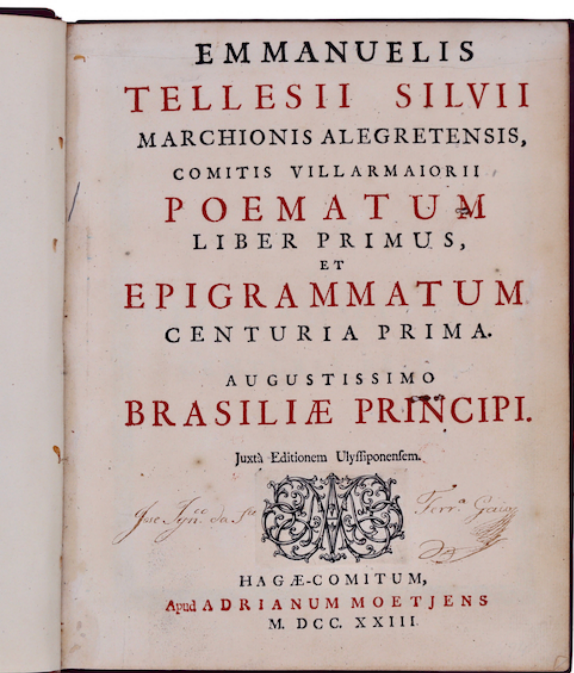
*OCLC records just one copy outside Switzerland, at the University of Munich.*





44. TELLES DA SILVA, MANUEL. POEMATUM LIBER PRIMUS, et epigrammatum centuria prima. ... Juxtà Editionum Ulyssiponensem. Hagae-Comitum: Apud Adrianum Moetjens, MDCCXXIII [1723]. £1350

4to, pp. [iv], 47, [1] blank, [23], [1] blank; title printed in red and black, with engraved vignette, text entirely within decorative border, each poem with engraved initial, two headpieces and six tailpieces engraved by Bernard Picart; repaired paper flaw to head of K1, not affecting text and a few other small marginal restorations; otherwise clean and fresh; ownership signature of José Ignacio da St Ferra(ra?) Gaió in a contemporary hand on title-page; in nineteenth-century burgundy calf, boards bordered in gilt, spine with raised bands ruled and lettered in gilt; some light wear and rubbing to extremities, but a sound copy with later book-plate of Ruben J. Dussaut on front paste-down.



The only Netherlands printing, a year after the Lisbon first and here embellished with engraved initials, head-, and tailpieces by Bernard Picart, of this collection of Latin verses by the Portuguese nobleman Emmanuel Telles da Silva (1682-1736).

The collection is dedicated to José, Prince of Portugal (later José I, 1714-1777), and contains one hundred short poems, some just of two lines, on topics ranging from advice to the poet's son on the usefulness of studying geography to the fourth birthday of the dedicatee; there are verses in praise of the Virgin Mary and on Eve and the Serpent, and a poem addressed to Nuno da Silva Teles, who had recently laid the foundation stone of the new library (the Joanina Library) at the University of Coimbra.

The first edition of these poems appeared in Lisbon the previous year, but the present printing, elaborately

bordered and with Picart's engravings and initials, is a much more luxurious production. Picart (1673-1733) had moved to Amsterdam in 1711 after a year in the Hague. Telles da Silva was the first secretary of the Academia Real da História Portuguesa, founded by João V in 1720, and was noted for his expertise in both mathematics and horsemanship. His history of the Academia Real was published in Lisbon in 1727.

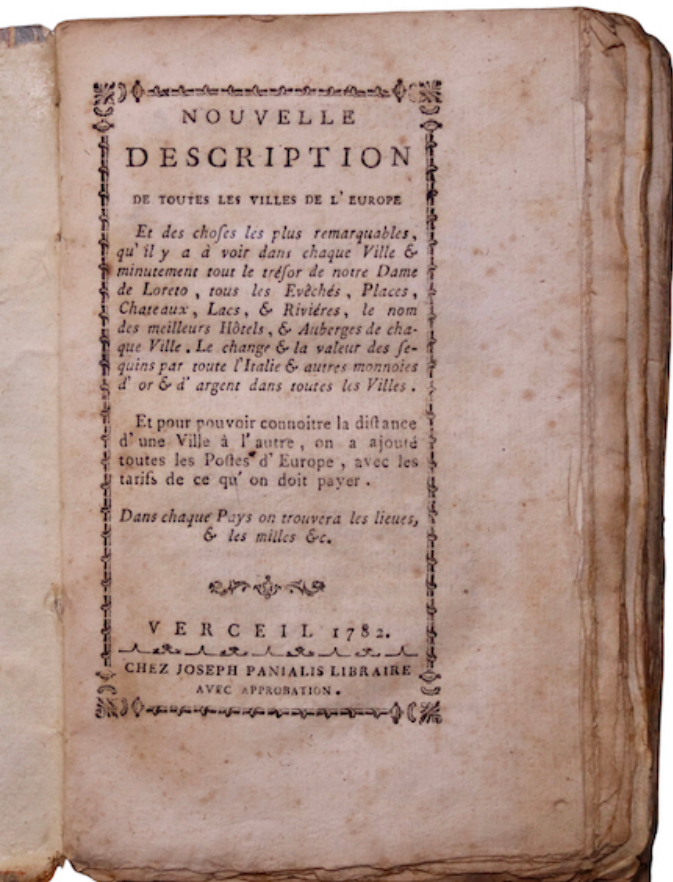
*Outside Continental Europe, OCLC records six copies, at the Library of Congress, Harvard, John Carter Brown, BL, National Library of Scotland, and Aberdeen; the Lisbon edition of 1722 not recorded by OCLC.*

## Where to stay, what to see, and how to get there

45. [TRAVEL]. NOUVELLE DESCRIPTION DE TOUTES LES VILLES DE L'EUROPE et des choses les plus remarquables, qu'il y a à voir dans chaque Ville & minutement tout le trésor de notre Dame de Loreto, tous les Evêchés, Places, Chateaux, Lacs, & Rivières, le nom des meilleurs Hôtels, et Auberges de chaque Ville. Le change & la valeur des sequins par toute l'Italie & autres monnoies d'or & d'argent dans toutes les Villes. Et pour pouvoir connoître la distance d'une Ville à l'autre, on a ajouté toutes les Postes d'Europe, avec les tarifs de ce qu'on doit payer. Dans chaque Pays on trouvera les lieues, & les milles &c. Verceil: Chez Joseph Panialis, 1782. £500

Second Edition? 12mo, pp. 235, [1] reimprimatur; title within decorative border; woodcut head- and tailpieces; some foxing throughout, and the odd paper flaw but without any loss of text; in contemporary stiff marbled wrappers; spine chipped at head but still an attractive copy.

Very rare guide to the sites and sights of Europe, containing all the information the international traveller who wants to see the most interesting buildings and the best scenery, and to stay in the best hotels, might need.

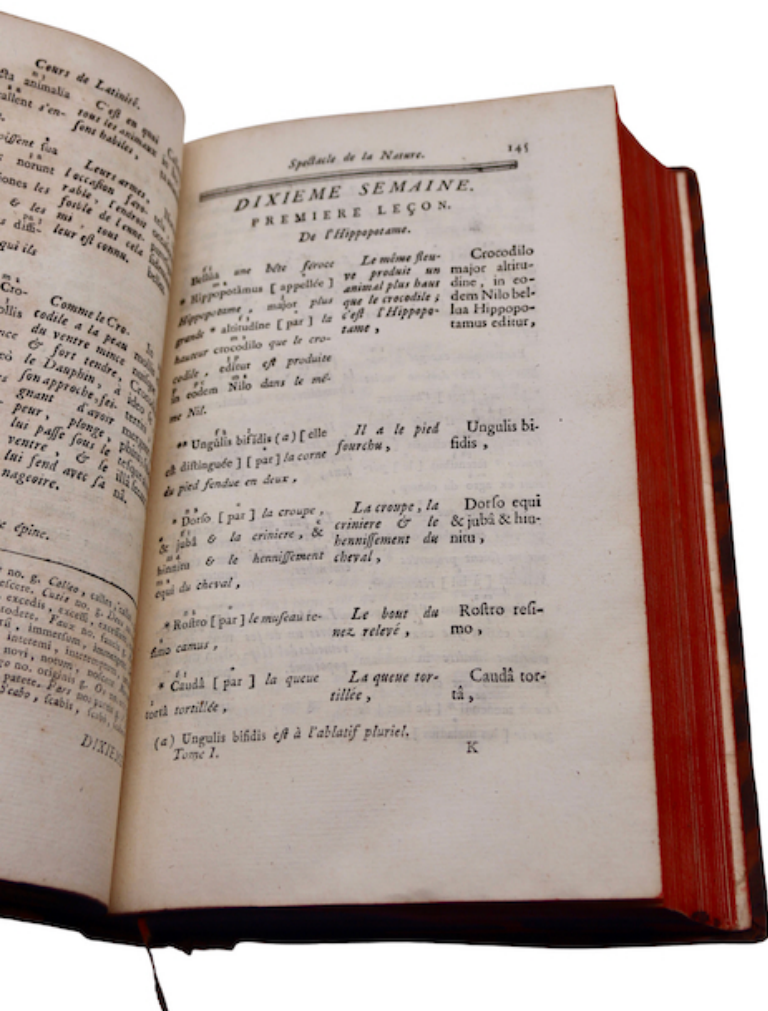


Divided into three parts, dealing in turn with Italy, Germany and the Low Countries, and France, Spain, Portugal, and England, the work consists of 83 journeys, starting with that from Turin to Genoa via Asti and Alexandria, and finishing with that from Paris to London. With so much ground to cover, most of the routes are described very briefly, with details of the distances (and tolls) between each staging-post, a short sketch of the most important sights in each city, and a note of where best to stay. There are exceptions, however: notably, a lengthy description of Loreto gives a full account of the Basilica and its treasures over more than fifty pages. By contrast, London, the final destination, merits only two pages, despite its being 'très-vaste, & très-peuplée': here, the Royal Exchange, is described as 'un des plus beaux bâtimens de l'univers', while the theatres are awash not only with English comedies but with Italian operas.



Gorini, in *Vercelli Nei Libri E Nelle Stampe Del Settecento*, mentions a 1775 edition, but this does not appear in any library catalogue consulted. A further edition, of 244 pages, appeared in Rome in 1785, of which only the Leipzig copy is recorded by OCLC.

Gorini, p. 150; outside Continental Europe, OCLC records two copies, at Chicago and Texas (Harry Ransom), with further copies at Geneva, the Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève, Basel, and Sachsen-Anhalt; the 1775 edition cited by Gorini appears untraceable.



## Latin-leaning for the busy

46. [VANIÈRE, IGNACE]. COURS DE LATINITÉ, divisé en deux parties; la première Consiste dans l'explication des Principes de la Langue Latine, accompagnée de Cartes grammaticales. La seconde Dans la double version littérale & françoise, de ce que les Auteurs Latin on dit de plus propre à ornder & enrichir l'esprit, à perfectionner la raison, le goût & les mœurs. Ouvrage utile à tous ceux qui étudient la Langue Latine, & nécessaire à toutes les personnes de l'un & l'autre sexe qui veulent l'apprendre aisément, en peu de tems, sans le secours des Maîtres, & sans déranger le cours de leurs occupations ordinaires. On distribue ce Cours de Latinité feuille à feuille, une chaque semaine, pour en faciliter l'acquisition & l'usage à tout le monde. A Paris, Chez Antoine Boudet, MDCCLIX [1759].

[bound with]: GRAMMAIRE LATINE, Second Partie, ou Syntaxe, Promise par M. Vaniere, pour completer son Cours de Latinité ou sa Méthode pour apprendre le Latin sans Maître, Cours publié ci-devant en deux volumes in-8o. A Paris: Chez Antoine Boudet, MDCCLXXIII [1773].

FIRST EDITION. *Two volumes, 8vo, pp. iv, xvi, 64, 576, seven folding tables; 12136, 510, seven leaves of tables; woodcut head- and tailpieces, and numerous tables within text; paper largely browned throughout, with some spotting and light marginal staining; occasional contemporary ink marks; wormtrace to foot of tables in volume one, not affecting text, and small wormhole in bottom margin of several gatherings of volume one, again not affecting text; in contemporary calf; spines gilt in compartments between raised bands, gilt lettering-pieces, edges red; stain to foot of volume one, not affecting interior; otherwise, aside from some slight wear to extremities, an attractive copy.*

First edition of this rare Latin course, ‘useful for everyone studying the Latin language, and necessary for everyone, of either sex, who wishes to learn it easily, quickly, without the help of teachers, and without getting in the way of their everyday occupations’. The author, Ignace Vanière, whose name appears on the title-page of the second volume, was the nephew of the neo-Latin poet Jacques Vanière, and author of two *Discours sur l’éducation*, published in 1760 and 1763, where he set out his ideas on the reform of teaching methods.

These ideas can be seen in practice in the present work, for which he is now best remembered. The short first part is devoted to the principles of Latin grammar and parts of speech; this only takes up the first 64 pages of the first volume. The bulk of the work, as Vanière describes it, contains ‘a collection of what Latin authors have considered the most appropriate to enrich the spirit, and to perfect reason, taste, and morals’. Week by week, Vanière offers a themed lesson where he offers a set of phrases and sentences, arranged as three columns: the first contains the Latin phrase translated word for word; the second a French translation; and the third, the Latin with an appropriate word order. So the very first lesson (on ‘Spring’) opens thus:

*Incipe Commencez quandoquidem puisque consedimus nous nous sommes assis in sur herbâ l’herbe molli molle.*

*Nous voilà commodément assis sur le gazon, commencez.*

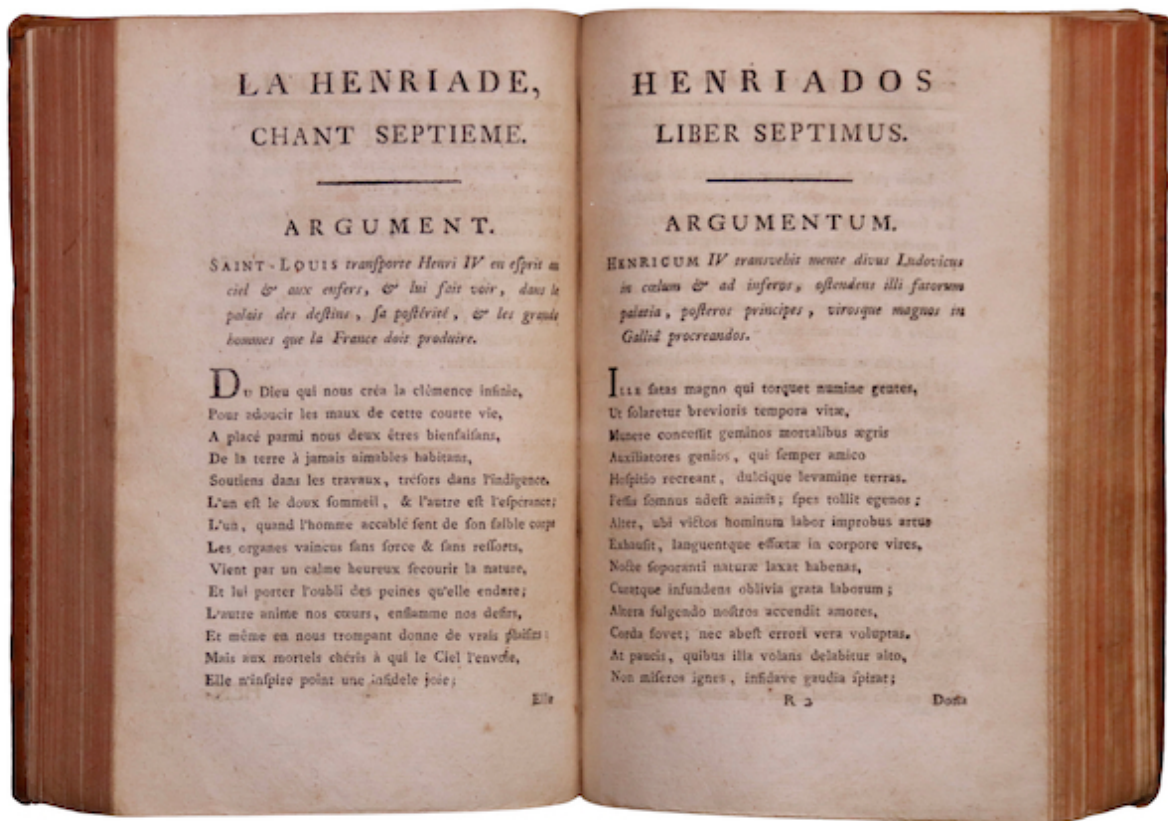
*Incipe, quandoquidem in milli consedimus herbâ.*

By this method, Vanière hopes to show more clearly than the likes of Dumarsais how the sense of a word and that of a sentence are both related and separate. The extracts used are based in the first volume around the theme of the spectacles of nature and in the second around duties, and draw from Pliny, Cicero, and many others. Bound in the second volume is a treatise on syntax intended to complete and complement Vanière’s course, also published by Boudet but printed after Vanière’s death.

*Not in Barbier; outside France, OCLC records copies at Georgetown, Aberdeen, and the BL.*

## **Voltaire as heir to Virgil**

**47. VOLTAIRE.** *VOLTARII HENRIADOS LIBRI DECEM, latinis versibus et gallicis; adposito duplici poemate, quod accurate semper ad versum respondet. Editio nova, probe recognita et castigata. Auctore Calcio Cappavalle ex aule palatinae servitio. Mannhemii: impensis C.F. Schwan, MDCCLXXV [1775].* £450



*Two works in one volume, small 8vo, pp. liii, 2-353, [1] blank, [4] bookseller's catalogue; 96, 121-130; some spotting and foxing in places, but largely clean; ownership signature of Delavaud, dated 24 November 1812, on verso of endpaper of each work; in contemporary calf, spine gilt in compartments with raised bands, gilt lettering-piece; some wear, especially to joints, corners, and head and foot of spine.*

Uncommon Mannheim printing, three years after the similarly scarce first printed in Zweibrücken, of this Latin translation of Voltaire's epic account of the life of Henri IV and the French Wars of Religion, by the French journalist and poet Caux de Cappeval (c.1712-1774).

Caux de Cappeval, a native of Normandy, moved to Mannheim around 1760, where he found work at the court of the elector Charles Theodore. He followed his 1768 *Odes héroïques* with the present Voltaire translation, with both works dedicated to Charles Theodore. In his lengthy preface, which appears in this 1775 edition for the first time, he argues that the *Henriade* should take its place as the third of the great epics, alongside the *Iliad* and the *Aeneid*: 'Elle peut devenir comme eux un livre classique' if translated into Latin so that those who cannot read French might benefit from it. This edition not only adds the preface missing from the Zweibrücken printing, but also an Ode in imitation of Horace, 'pareillement omise dans l'édition de 1772; on ne sçait pas pourquoi'.

Bound with the *Henriade* is an incomplete copy of an uncommon Amsterdam printing of Fougere de Monbron's *La Henriade travestie en vers burlesques* (François l'Honoré, 1763).

*Outwith Continental Europe, OCLC records copies at Syracuse, Wisconsin, and the British Library, with the 1772 edition at Texas A&M, Texas (Harry Ransom) and Cambridge.*

## Geometry for St Andrews students

48. WEST, JOHN. ELEMENTS OF MATHEMATICS. Comprehending Geometry. Conic Sections. Mensuration. Spherics. Illustrated with 30 copper-plates. For the use of schools. Edinburgh: Printed for William Creech; and sold in London by T. Longman and T. Cadell., MDCCLXXXIV [1784]. £550

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. x, 417, [1] blank, [1] directions to the binder, [1] blank, [1] errata, [1] blank; with 30 folding leaves of plates; aside from some light spotting in places, clean and fresh throughout; in contemporary calf, sympathetically rebacked; spine ruled in gilt with morocco lettering-piece; some light wear to extremities; book-plate of J.E.H. Graham-Clarke on front paste-down, and 'LP' in ink on fore-edge.

A good copy, with an interesting provenance, of this broad introduction by the St Andrews mathematician John West (1756-1814).

Although titled *Elements of Mathematics*, West's work is essentially a textbook on geometry. 'My original intention was not to include the First Elements of Geometry. It that appeared to me that the *Elements* of Euclid might continue to serve the purpose which they had done for many ages. My design was only to build upon the foundation which that illustrious author had laid, and, under the several heads of Conic Sections, Mensuration, and Spherics, to complete a system of Geometry for the instruction of youth' (p. iv). This is not to say that we should rely on Euclid, however: his geometry 'is now inadequate and defective', but the plan of the *Elements* is nonetheless one worth following.



The present copy bears the book-plate of the tea trader, J.E.H. Graham-Clarke, who was active in Sri Lanka in the early years of the twentieth century, but various manuscript notes show a provenance dating back to the late eighteenth century. The signature of Leonard Parkinson, dated 1798, appears at the head of page 1, with that of John Parkinson, dated 1804, on the front paste-down and again on page 1. This is continued 'who, being now no more, this book is intended for the dear Grandson John A Graham Clarke', signed once again by Leonard Parkinson. This is John Altham Graham Clarke (1813-1897), a cousin of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and the descendent of generations of slave owners in Jamaica. It is not impossible, with this in mind, that the eventual owners knew West, who, despairing of ever being paid properly as a university teacher, left St Andrews in the year of publication to become a clergyman in Jamaica, where he spent much of the rest of his life.

For more on West's life after St Andrews, see A D D Craik, 'Geometry, Analysis and the Baptism of Slaves: John West in St Andrews and Jamaica', *Historia Mathematica* 25 (1) (1998), 29-74.

## Against so-called philosophy

49. [ZATTA, ANTONIO, PRINTER]. LETTERE DIRETTE ALLI MODERNI INCREDULI intorno alla pretesa filosofia esaminata e discussa pei suoi caratteri. Tomo I [-II]. In Venezia: presso Antonio Zatta, MDCCXCVIII [1798]. £650

FIRST EDITION. *Two volumes, 12mo, pp. xxiv, 298; xii, 292; sporadic spotting and browning, very light dampstaining to head, not affecting text, and small nick to margin of first few gatherings of volume one; in contemporary vellum-backed patterned boards, title in (rather faded) ink on spines; extremities bumped and worn, but still an attractive copy.*

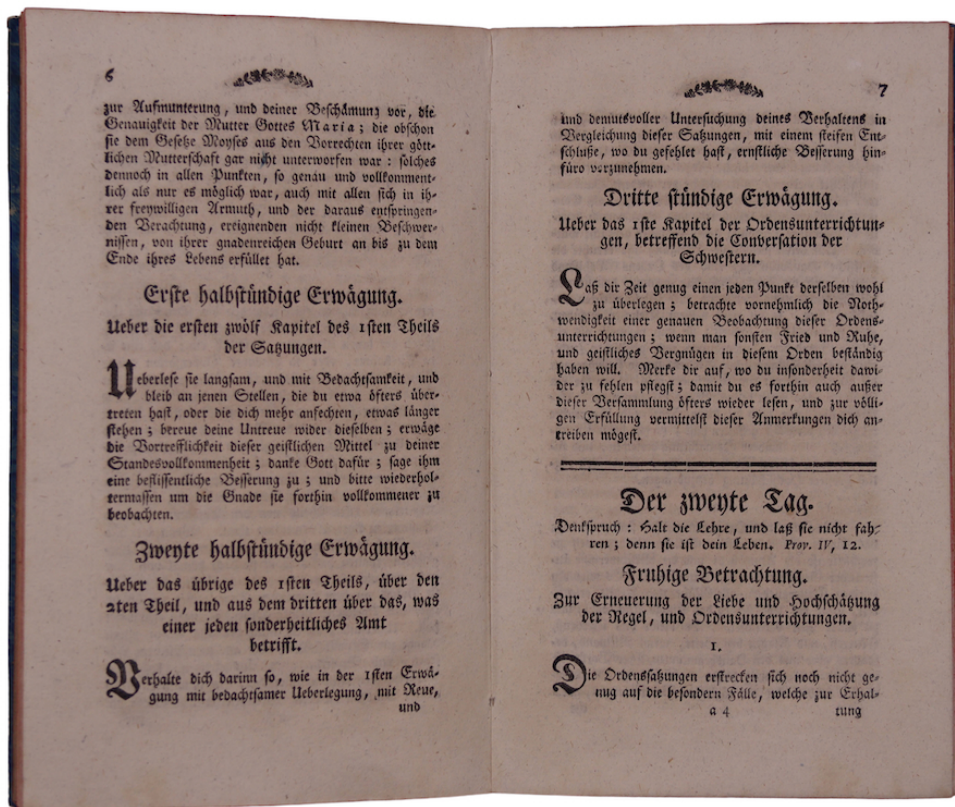
First edition of this anonymous anti-enlightenment work, consisting of 41 letters on the irreligion of modern philosophy, all signed P.M.D.M and dated 1766-7.

In his printer's preface, Antonio Zatta states that the work's aim is to 'impugn the incredulity of certain people who, under the false guise of Philosophy, attempt to beat down the truth of our sacrosanct religion'. The principal targets of the work are Voltaire, never referred to by name but always as the 'Autore dell'Henriade', and Rousseau, who is regarded both as a genius and a hypocrite. The author observes the excessive praise given by Voltaire (and the other Increduli) to natural scientists, and Newton in particular, in contrast with the lack of attention (oddly) given to the study of history; he identifies various characteristics of enlightenment philosophy, criticising its spirit of doubt as being far removed from the (constructive) doubt of Descartes. We also find a criticism of the *philosophes'* understanding of toleration; it is not a bad thing in itself, but their motivations are incorrect. Other letters address Rousseau's views on miracles and genuflection, Voltaire's deism, and even the causes of depopulation (citing Hume in defence of the argument that it was not the result of priestly celibacy).

We have been unable to discover the author of the letters, nor why they remained unpublished until three decades after their imprimatur was granted.



*OCLC records copies at McGill and the Francescani, with SBN noting a further copy at the Marciana in Venice.*



## Renewing observance

50. ZENO, FRANZ. DREYTÄGIGE GEMÜTHSVERSAMMLUNG vor dem Feste der Verkündigung Mariä, für die Klosterfrauen des Ordens der Annunciaten Cölestinen. Prag: mit Schriften der königl. Normalschulbuchdruckerey, durch Joh. Adam Hagen, Faktor, 1777. £250

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 19, [1] blank; small marginal wormhole to last few leaves, endpapers browned, but otherwise clean and fresh; in contemporary blue paste-paper boards; spine and extremities worn with small chip near head of spine, but a good copy.

Uncommon account by the Prague priest Franz Zeno of the three-day long meetings held by the Celestine nuns of Prague marking the feast the the Nativity of the Virgin, in which the nuns refresh and renew their knowledge and observance of the statutes of the Order and the Rule of St Benedict, followed by the Celestines.

Zeno, in his role as confessor to the nuns, describes the course of the three days, opening with, on the first morning, the renewal of the nuns commitment to the statutes, followed by study of individual chapters on particular subjects, including the conversastion of nuns; the second day continues with study of the rule and the Order, while the third is devoted to the renewal of zeal in the practice of spiritual exercises.

Zeno (1734-1781) is better known as a mathematician and astronomer. A Jesuit who taught at the Charles University in Prague, he also wrote the first Czech work on fossils, and was Royal Astronomer from 1777-1781.

VD18 10724613; OCLC records copies at Dayton and Göttingen.



