



# Almanacks

25 books for 2025

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Bernard Quaritch Ltd January 2025





















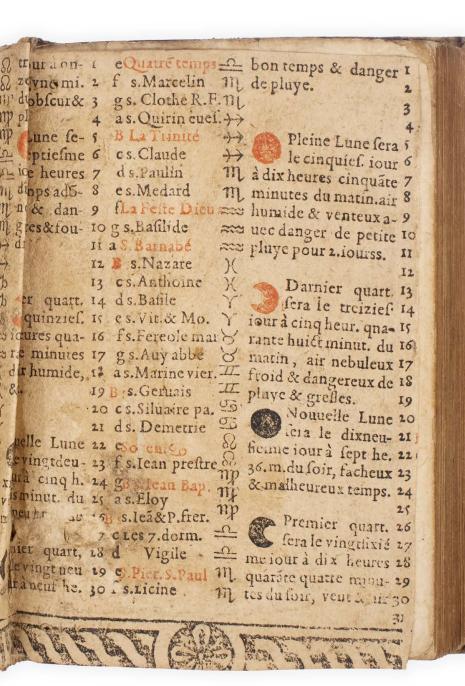


BUNTE





as. Quirin euel & humidité. 4 cs. A broise mp pl B La Tunité Pleine une fe- s ds Dominique 14 cs. Claude lecin Pleine lune sera 6 ptiesme 6 es. Cele tinha 12 M minutes di INDEX ip huick hen PSALTERIVM. Quam deriforum turba maligna tenet. ALTERIVM and humide & W in minut 2 Huius erit domini lex infinita voluptas, 2 Ratio DAVIDIS CARMINE Quam labi ex animo tempora nulla finent. 3 Verbum au uec danger redditum per Eobanum Heffum. ce temps add 3 Hicerit adsimily gravide sua brachia palmæ nő est ocio fum, quia Que stat ad vndantes iussa virerelacus habet adace pluye pour Que feret opportuna suos in tempore fructus, a ou pluye PSALMVS PRIMVS. dicum fpi-Et sua quæ debet munera ferre, feret. ritum fan crum, qui Beatus vir qui non ambulauit in Huic non vlla suos vis perturbabit honores, perid cor-Nec folia à ventis illius vlla cadent. da reno: consilio impiorum. uat. Darn Hæc quæcanque dabit, dabit optima prodiga ver 4 Antithe Foetibus optandes, semper habebit opes. ARGVMENTVM. fis, que mi natur Ec-4 Tam bona non capiet, non impius ista videbit fera i Convenientissima præfatio in psalmos, qua hor clesiæ hy. Premia, non tales talia dona decent. tatur Prophetaad studium religionis. Quia autem pocritahypocrifis magnam speciem habet, ecotra vera ec-Sed velut à terra palea sparguntur inanes, rum, o fit iour à cinq me iour a clefia fine fecie eft:ad confolationem ver Eccle peritura. Quas quocunque volet quelibet aurarapit: fix, egregie ornat fructus verbi. 5 Epipho. Impius instabiles sic euanescetin auras, rante huich nema. dix minu Et nullum poterit certus habere locum. Firmet vt humanas noua consolatio mentes, Ergo salutiferæ nec stabit in ordine turbæ, Quas habeant vires, que bona, verba Dei. matin, an remps fro Cum iusto reprobus nec sociandus erit. Qui domino fidant hos solos esse beatos, 5 Nouit enim Dominus iustos. & vota piorum, Qua maneant reprobos, pagina prima docet. froid & das Proposi-D de, & sur Quorum auida iustas percipit aure preces. rio, Beat9 Sed cadet, or poenas dabit impius omnis, ego horis F Elix ô nimium felix, qui facta malorum qui discede glace. dit ab Ec. Omne quod instituet di foluetur opus. Impia conspiciens, noluit vlla sequi. piora, & Cui via displicuit pro veris falsa sequentum, PSALMVS II. Perditus incautum ne graderetur iter: doctrina . Qui neque conscendit damnos es fulcra cathedra, Quare fremuerunt gentes, &c. monne iour à dix heu 24 B s. Marceln Ix dia cinq h. 24 &maiheu res du matin, temps 25 c includ Ivisminut. du 25 Psalms froid, menaçat de ver- 26 d's, Clair 2 Locular 7. CLes 7.dorm. glats ou neiges. of fe Viral



# PRESERVING A SIXTEENTHCENTURY ALMANACK FRAGMENT

1. [PSALMS.] Psalterium Davidis carmine redditum per Eobanum Hessum. Annotationes Viti Theodori Noribergensis, quae vice commentarii in idem esseposint. Ecclesiastes Salomonis eodem genere carminis ab eodem redditus. Paris, [(colophon:) Guillaume Morel for] Jacques Dupuys 'sub insigni Samaritanae', [August] 1550.

16mo, pp. 429, [1 (colophon)], [2 (blank)]; lightly browned at edges, sporadic light spotting; otherwise a very good copy recased in its near-contemporary vellum over nineteenth-century pulpboard, old cover lining of 1583 almanack printed in red and black preserved as front endpapers, spine lettered in manuscript, edges gilt; top-edge slightly dusty, upper hinge cracked, small chips at head and at upper joint.

Seemingly unrecorded issue of the Psalms of David in Latin as edited by the Lutheran theologian Eoban of Hesse (1488-1540) with commentary by Luther's housemate, associate, and sometime secretary Veit Dietrich (1506-1549).

The verse translation of the Psalms by the Lutheran humanist and neo-Latin poet Eoban of Hesse (or Eobanus Hessus, 1488–1540) was completed in 1537 during a stay at the University of Marburg; 'endorsed by Luther and Melanchthon, it was reprinted over fifty times' (Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation).

# PSALTERIYM DA VIDIS CARMINE REDDI tum per Eobanum Hessum.

Annotationes Viti Theodori Noribergensis, quæ vice commentarij in idem esseposint.

ECCLESIASTES SALOMOnis eodem genere carminis ab eodem redditus.

PARISIIS,

Apud Iacobu Dupuys, sub insigni Samaritana, e regione gymnasy Cameracensis.

\$ 5 5 0.

The first Parisian edition of Eobanus' *Psalms* was printed ten years later by Mathurin du Puys, elder brother and collaborator of the Jacques Dupuys (active c. 1540–1589) who printed the present edition. Mathurin's known affiliation with the Reformation likely stems from his ties to booksellers and printers in Basel: 'he was from 1537 to 1541 an agent for the Basel bookseller Conrad Resch ... At the same time, he frequented the Frankfurt fairs and continued to work with the Basel booksellers Michael Isengrin, Nikolaus I Episcopius, Heinrich Petri, and especially Hieronymus Froben' (BnF Data, *trans.*). Did Jacques perhaps share his brother's support for the cause of the Reformation?

Our copy preserves a fragment of a seemingly unrecorded broadside lunar almanack for 1583 (printed 'en la grand Court du Palais'), with phases of the moon, feast days, and forecasts visible for February (promising cold rain, snow, and black ice), April (thunder and lightning), and June ('facheux & malhereux temps').

We find a single copy at the Universitätsbibliothek Augsburg listing only Morel as printer, and one at the Bodleian with no printer listed.

Another issue was printed in August 1550 by Guillaume Morel for Jean de Roigny of which OCLC finds copies at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Glasgow, Heidelberg, and Mazarine, (see USTC 150683; Pettegree & Walsby, French Books 57691).









# SLOVAK ALMANACK FOR A GENOESE DIPLOMAT



**2.** [ALMANACK.] Calendarium Tyrnaviense ad annum Jesu Chris[ti] M. DCC. XXXI[.] ... [Tyrnau (Trnava), 1731.]

4to, pp. [66]; part-title to 'Prognosis conjecturalis astrologica', title and part-title printed within typographic borders, title and calendar printed in red and black, calendar interleaved; lower half of title-page torn away, slight spotting throughout; bound in contemporary printed vellum over boards, each side copper-engraved, completed in manuscript ('Illustrissimo et Excell<sup>mo</sup>, Domino Clementi Comiti ab Auria, Abelegato extraordinario Serenissimæ Reipublicæ Genuensi ad Aulam Cæsaream Anno 1731.', see below), edges silver-gilt (now tarnished), sewn on 3 vellum thongs, spine lined with printed waste; a little rubbed, corners slightly bumped, front hinge split; contemporary ink calculations to front endpapers.

A remarkable almanack binding of part-printed, part-manuscript vellum, prepared for presentation at the Habsburg court in Vienna to the Genoese diplomat Clemente Doria.

The almanack was printed at the Jesuit University of Tyrnau (now Trnava, Slovakia), a centre of Slovak learning in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and is dedicated to the Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI, whose arms and motto appear on the front board and his motto 'constatia et fortidudine [sic]' on the rear.

The unusual binding was evidently designed to facilitate the almanack's traditional role in courtly gift-giving, with a large panel on the front board left blank to allow a presentation inscription to be added in manuscript, in this case to Clemente Doria (1666-post 1731), a Genoese diplomat posted first to London from 1695 and later, on several missions from 1716 onwards, to Vienna. The almanack dates to the end of his time at the Imperial court, which he left on 3 March 1731.





# THE FOUR SEASONS

**3. [ENGELBRECHT, Martin.]** [Vier Jahreszeiten. Serie 89.] [Augsburg, Martin Engelbrecht, c. 1750.]

Six copper-engraved views (75 x 91 mm), trimmed closely and with progressively smaller cut-outs in the centre, each sheet lined with printed waste (forming three adjacent pairs, one including the date '[M]. DCCC. VI'), contemporary hand-colouring, the fifth view lettered 'N. 89.' in the plate; old manuscript numbering to versos.

£1750

An attractive hand-coloured engraved peepshow showing the four seasons, with summer in the foreground retreating into winter behind, lined with printed waste from an illustrated Dutch religious broadside.





In the first two scenes brightly costumed figures harvest wheat and hay, followed in the fourth by men and women gathering crops from a field and plucking fruit from a tree, gathered in half-barrels below; the third, rather incongruous among its agricultural neighbours, shows a well-dressed pair in an idyllic sylvan setting, with a large golden sculpture, a balustrade, a potted tree, and a scattering of red and orange flowers. The final two scenes show winter, with bare trees and pale light around figures slipping on ice.

The engraver and publisher Martin Engelbrecht (1684-1756) is known principally for his peepshow engravings, for which he obtained an imperial privilege in 1719 (subsequently renewed in 1729 and 1739). In addition to the 'Four Seasons' he published also separate peepshows showing the seasons individually, and the plates for the 'Four Seasons' peepshow appear to be taken from the others and can be found in mixed states: here the second and fourth are the same as those in 'Autumn' and the fifth and sixth as those in 'Winter'; our set differs from Milano's only in the last two plates.

Milano, Martin Engelbrecht: Perspektivtheater – Dioramen 117 ('Vier Jahreszeiten, Serie 89'); see also 80 ('Herbst, Serie 61') and 81 ('Winter, Serie 62').



# GOOD BOOKS AND FINE WINES

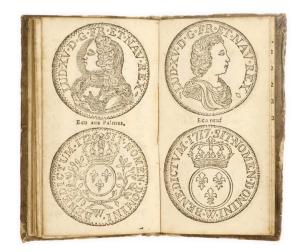
**4. [EMBROIDERED BINDING.]** Etrennes mignonnes, pour l'an de grace de Notre Seigneur M. DCC. LIII. ... *Liège, Everard Kints,* [1753].

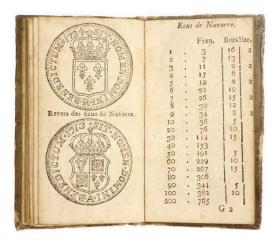
24mo, pp. [96]; woodcut illustrations of coins to 12 pp.; a few leaves closely cut at outer margin, occasionally affecting a few characters, quire B loose; in a contemporary embroidered binding of raised work in silver thread on a silk background over canvas, each board with a central floral vignette in coloured threads; rather worn at extremities, embroidery to spine perished, silver thread largely tarnished, upper board a little darkened, but a charming piece; nineteenth-century ink stamp of D. Cloz to front free endpaper. £400

A charming almanack for 1753 printed in Liège by Everard Kints - bookseller, printer, and wine merchant - here in a delightful embroidered binding with raised work in silver thread surrounding a skilfully executed floral arrangement.









The printer advertises - as well as Missals, breviaries, history books, English wax, and Holland paper - champagne and 'excellent' Languedoc and Burgundy wines, with a refund of 3 sous to anyone who returns the bottle afterwards.

OCLC and CCFr find no copies of this edition, and only scattered holdings for other years.

# 'TEA, COFFEE, TOBACCO, & SNUFF': THE ALMANACK AS LEDGER

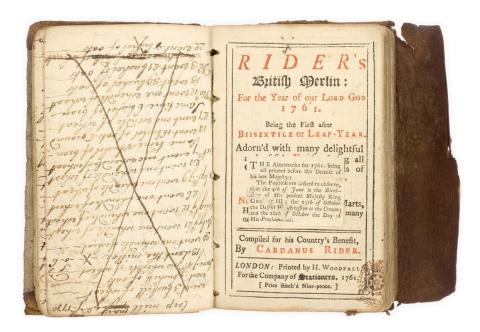
**5. [ALMANACK.]** Rider's British Merlin: for the Year of our Lord God 1761. *London, Henry Woodfall, 1761.* 

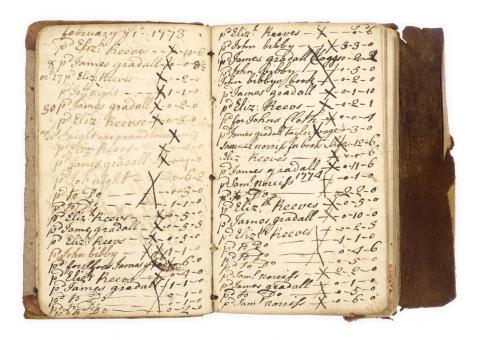
12mo, pp. [56] of [60], wanting A6-7 (observations of May and June, calendars for June and July), 14 interleaved blanks and a further 25 blank ff. bound in; title-page and following 9 ff. printed in red and black, woodcut of Zodiac Man to B3<sup>r</sup>, printed slip pasted to title-page advising changes necessitated by the accession of George III; some offsetting from interleaved annotations, a few minor blemishes, edges browned, black spot to tail-edge; in contemporary sheep with fore-edge flap to rear cover, boards with pockets, covers tooled with a border in blind; rubbed, with wear to head of spine and covers, small loss to flap; twopenny stamp to title-page, **c. 65 pages of extensive ink and pencil notes** to interleaved blanks, endpapers, and some to printed pages.

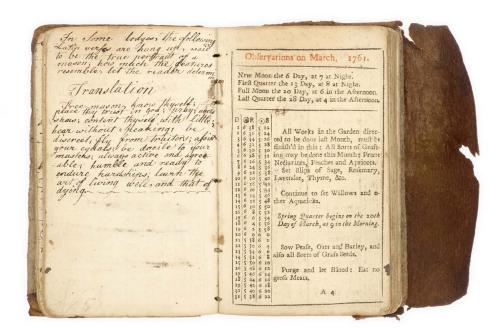
£550

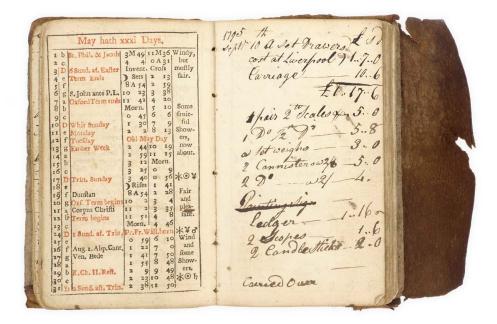
A charming almanack from Georgian England, interleaved and heavily annotated over at least thirty-five years by a tradesman in tea, coffee, and tobacco in northwestern England.

Rider's was among the longest-standing and bestselling English almanacks, running from 1652 to the 1830s and enjoying a print run of 24,000 in 1761 (the year of the present edition), second only to *Old Moore's Almanack*. Unlike *Old Moore's* and most other titles in the genre, however, *Rider's* was aimed firmly at the low end of the market: the lack of articles and poems (often found in other almanacks) and the simple, repetitious, strongly agrarian contents – 'In this Month uncover the Roots of Trees, and Cover with Dung the Roots of new-planted Trees' and so forth – suggest 'the rudimentary reader' as an intended audience (Perkins, pp. 35–6).









Our copy was apparently owned and used into the 1790s as a ledger-cum-notebook by one Samuel Beeston, a shopkeeper or grocer working in and around Lancashire. We find several 'Beeston' pentrials as well as drafts of two declarations signed 'S[amue]l Beeston' made 'at the Excise office Preston' in 1796, recording the establishment of 'a Shop & Cellar ... for the purpose of Keeping Tea Coffee Tobacco & Snuff'. The interleaved blanks contain some thirty pages of manuscript accounts, often naming the payer or recipient and the goods in question – wool, needles, 'half boots', a 'pare of shoes', etc. – as well as extensive and dated records of agricultural transactions: 'Sep<sup>tr</sup> ... 23 went two Sacks of oats ground', 'De<sup>r</sup> ... 6 went 5 bushel of wheat', 'July 5 went one whendle beans'. ('Windle': '(esp. Lancashire). A unit of measure used for grain and other commodities ... In Lancashire ... typically 3 to 3.5 bushels' (OED)).

Also present are notes pertaining to rental agreements ('The large front room let to Miss Briars and & Miss Banes at seven Guineas [per] Annum'); addresses in Lancashire, Cheshire, and London, including that of 'Mess's Rutton & Chapman | Tea Dealers', known to have operated at 54-55 Charing Cross at the time; and an anti-Masonic passage copied from *Solomon in all his Glory* (1777).

ESTC, Library Hub, and OCLC together record three copies in North America (one at Wisconsin–Madison and two at Yale, one of the latter imperfect, and all three bound with other works), seven in British institutions, and one in Australia (State Library of Victoria), most of these again in sammelbands.

ESTC T45003. See Blagden, 'Thomas Carnan and the almanack monopoly' in Studies in Bibliography 14 (1961); Perkins, Visions of the Future: Almanacs, Time, and Cultural Change, 1775–1870 (1996).

# ALMANACK WITH ACADEMIC ACCOUTREMENTS

**6.** [ALMANACK.] Calendrier de la cour, tiré des éphémérides, pour l'année mil sept cent soixante-dix-neuf ... imprimé pour la famille royale et maison de sa majesté. *Paris, widow Hérissant, 1779*.

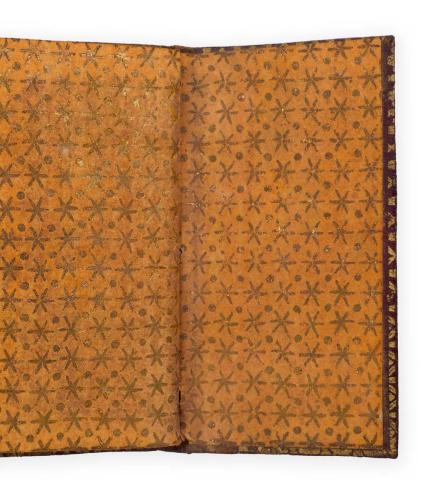
24mo, pp. [126]; first and last leaves pasted to free endpapers; woodcut armorial vignette to title, woodcut diagrams, printed within a border throughout; bound in contemporary red morocco, boards blocked in gilt with large central device, spine gilt in compartments, edges gilt, gilt orange brocade endpapers.

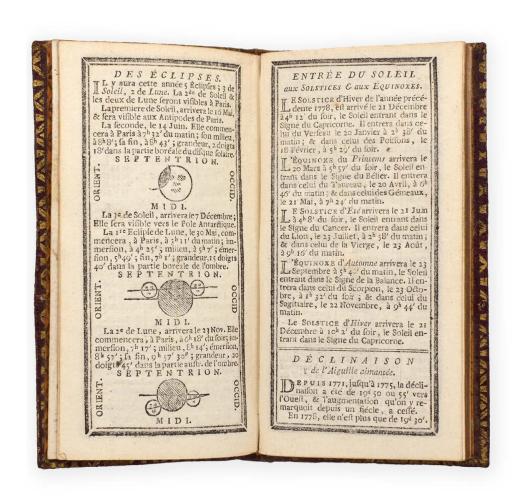
A charming French court almanack, attractively bound in red morocco with a central vignette depicting the accourrements of learned life, including a globe, a pen and paper, and measuring instruments.

The almanack provides a calendar with solar and lunar timings, important astronomical and liturgical dates, and woodcut diagrams explaining the five eclipses predicted for 1779. It includes also extensive lists of royal and ecclesiastical appointments as well as tables of weights and measures.

Grand-Carteret 92 ('Les exemplaires avec reliures à emblèmes ou à armoiries sont également très recherchés. En maroquin rouge, avec dentelles sur les plats').







07. [Almanack]

# A FRENCHMAN AT MUNICH'S MILITARY ACADEMY

7. **[BAVARIAN CADET CORPS.]** Schreib-Kalender, auf eine besondere Form und Weise, allen Obrigkeiten Kauf- und Handelsleuten, auch männiglich zum täglichen Nutzen also eingericht ... *Munich, Franz Joseph Thuille*, [1779].

4to, pp. 64, interleaved with blanks; light toning and small oilstain to first few leaves, browning to final quire with small marginal dampstain; otherwise an attractive copy in contemporary gilt brocade paper, gilt blue paper label '1779' to upper board, edges stained red; corners and spine bumped, boards lightly rubbed, top-edge dusty; contemporary French manuscript notes to 51 pp. and rear free endpaper, a further 19 pp. of manuscript receipts to interleaved blanks in the same hand, contemporary Bavarian ink duty stamp (?) 'Bayr. Cal. S29' to title, near-contemporary inscription 'Johann Nepomuk von Unertl ober leutnant bey dem ... regiment' to rear free endpaper, early twentieth-century ink stamp of Otto Hupp (see below) with initials, sketch of a hoopoe, and manuscript shelfmark to front pastedown.

A Munich-printed almanack for 1779 filled in with expenses and notes in French, seemingly recorded by the first French teacher at the newly restructured Bavarian military academy.

The Bavarian cadet corps at Munich had been established in 1756 and was formally separated from the army in 1777, when its operations were privately taken over by Duchess Maria Anna of Bavaria; the military academy was consequently known as the Herzoglich Marianische Landes-Akademie from July 1778. The extensive receipts and expenses in this copy – all in French – appear to be the work of *Abbé* Johann Baptiste de la Sarre (1720–1792), who took up a teaching position at the academy in August 1776 and was appointed head of French, history, and geography by the duchess.



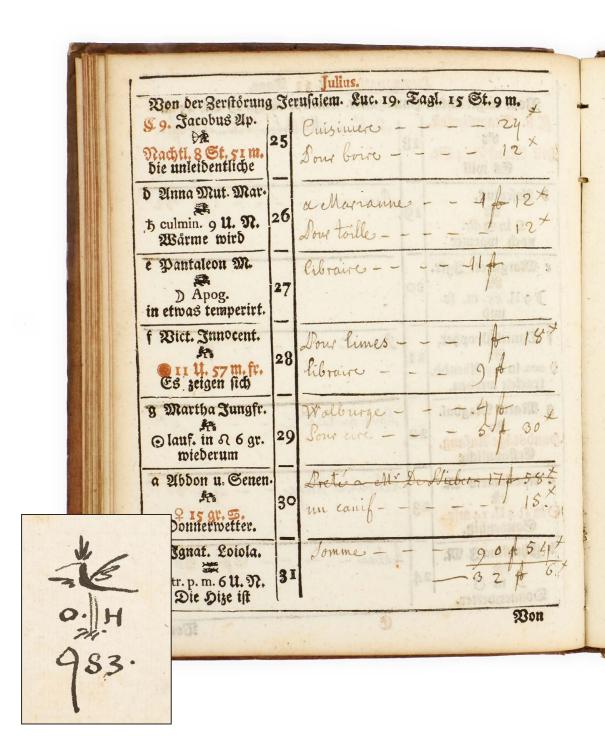
La Sarre held the position until 1783; pupils at the *Ritterakademie* were taught Biblical history, penmanship, German, Latin, algebra, and geometry, and in later years philosophy, physics, natural history, and mathematics. Here, he records the names of the academy's twenty-two pupils, noting which were boarders (*pensionnaires*); in 1779, the first year of the academy's new administration, numerous pupils were of noble birth, seven were orphans or half-orphans, and thirteen had previously been enrolled in the Cadet Corps (see Erlich, p. 109). He also records payment received from the Countess of Haimhausen and one Mlle de Berghen, amongst others, suggesting that he supplemented his income through private lessons.

Our Abbé – something of a reprobate – records, in addition to Masses given for *Monsieur* and *Madame* Hieber, a significant sum 'perdu au jeu' in the month of January, weekly orders of beer, and numerous bottles of wine and liqueurs (likewise obtained from the Hiebers). Also of note are a handful of trips to booksellers and bookbinders, letters to Vicenza and Spa, and the purchase of tobacco and sugar, new hats and rings, and seven *verres* (both concave and convex – likely not connected to his evident love of drink but to his academic interest in optics; this was the year in which he was made a member of the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften).

### Provenance:

- 1. Likely compiled by Jean Baptiste de la Sarre, *Sprachmeister* at the Herzoglich Marianische Landes-Akademie.
- 2 Professor Otto Hupp (1859–1949), German type designer, graphic designer, and author of books on heraldry.

VD18 9027685X. See Erlich, Die Kadettenanstalten: Strukturen und Ausgestaltung militärischer Pädagogik (2007).



# HOW NOW, BROWN COW?

**8.** [ALMANACK.] Giornale, e lunario sopra l'anno 1783. *Vicenza, Giovanni Battista Vendramini Mosca,* [1783].

[with:]

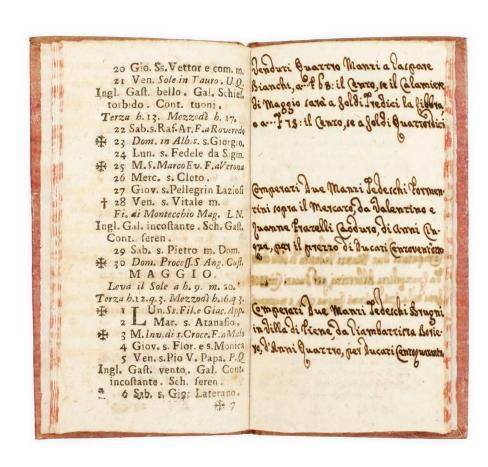
[—.] Giornale, e lunario sopra l'anno 1786. Vicenza, Giovanni Battista Vendramini Mosca, [1786].

[and:]

[—.] Giornale, e lunario sopra l'anno 1787. Vicenza, Giovanni Battista Vendramini Mosca, [1787].

Three almanacks, 24mo, pp. [24]; [24]; [24]; all with interleaved blanks; browning to 1783; otherwise very good copies, 1783 in contemporary paste-paper over boards and 1786 and 1787 in contemporary pink paper over boards, all three gilt to a floral design, red speckled edges to 1783 and 1786, all in contemporary slipcases, two of which with scalloped thumbholes (the other rounded); contemporary manuscript notes to 2 pp. of 1786 and 1 p. of 1787 (see below); slight tarnishing, light wear to slipcases. £850

Three seemingly unrecorded Vicenza-printed almanacks for 1783, 1785, and 1787, with contemporary notes by a cattle merchant recording the sale and purchase of livestock.









The almanacks record, as well as weather forecasts and feast days, the arrival and departure of couriers: news arrives, for instance, from Venice and Padua daily, from Mantua and Udine on Sundays, from Milan, Verona, and France – as well as the nearby towns of Schio and Marostica – twice per week, and from Germany on Thursdays in the summertime and Fridays in the winter.

On interleaved blanks, a contemporary owner has noted the sale of four cows to one Gaspare Bianchi in May 1786, the acquisition of six German cows, two of which bought at the market from the brothers Valentino and Zuanne Caoduro for 121 ducats, and another two purchased in the nearby town of Thiene; in each instance he records prices, sellers' names, the cows' ages (four or five), and the colour of their coats (brown, fawn-coloured); he adds a note the following January regarding a wagon driven to the stables of one Antonio Bortolato.

Not on Library Hub or OCLC; OPAC SBN records almanacks printed by Vendramini Mosca for 1791 only.



### MOON'S ALMANACK

**9. FENNING, Daniel.** The Ready Reckoner; or Trader's most useful Assistant, in buying and selling all sorts of Commodities either wholesale or Retail ... The eighth Edition. With Additions on Board and Timber Measure, Brick-work, and gauging by the Pen and Slip-rule. Carefully revised and corrected by Joseph Moon, Mathematician, Salisbury. *London, printed for S. Crowder ... and B.C. Collins ... in Salisbury, 1785.* 

8vo, pp. [2], xii, [264], with an initial advertisement and 'certificate' leaf with a woodcut facsimile signature of the editor; a good copy in contemporary buckram, somewhat rubbed and soiled. £250

First edition thus, edited by the mathematician and almanack-maker Joseph Moon of Salisbury.

Daniel Fenning (1714/15–1767) was the author of many textbooks covering spelling, grammar, geography, and practical mathematics. His *Ready Reckoner* was first published in 1757 and much reprinted – like many of his books, it had wide currency in America, where it also had several printings in German. Joseph Moon (d. 1817) published a Salisbury-printed almanack from the late 1770s. Here he claims to have 'bestowed extraordinary labour on correcting this useful book', recalculating every sum.

ESTC records five copies only, two of which in the UK (BL and Leeds, the former wanting the first leaf) and three in the US (American Antiquarian Society, Wesleyan, and Yale).

ESTC T133351.

# READY RECKONER;

O R,

### TRADER's most useful ASSISTANT,

In BUYING and SELLING

All Sorts of Commodities either Wholesale or Retail.

Shewing at one View

The Amount or Value of any Number or Quantity of Goods or Merchandise from one Farthing to Twenty Shillings, either by the long or sport Hundred, balf Hundred or Quarter, Pound or Ounce, Ell or Yard, &c. &c.

In fo plain and eafy a Manner, that Perfons quite unacquainted with Arithmetic may hereby afcertain the Value of any Number of Hundreds, Pounds, Ounces, Ells, or Yards, &c. at any Price whatever: And to the most ready in Figures, it will be equally useful, by faving much Time in casting up what is here correctly done to their Hand.

### TO WHICH IS ADDED,

- 1. A Double Table of PORTUGAL MONEY, from 1 to 1000.
- 2. A Table of EXPENCES or WAGES by the Day, Week, Month, or Year.
- 3. A Table of ANNUITIES, and COMMISSION or BROKERAGE, from One to One Eighth per Cent.

### By DANIEL FENNING,

AUTHOR OF
THE ROYAL ENGLISH DICTIONARY;
YOUNG MAN'S BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE;
USE OF THE GLOBES;
THE UNIVERSAL SPELLING BOOK;
A NEW GRAMMAR OF THE ENGLISH TONGUE;
And OTHERS.

### THE EIGHTH EDITION.

With Additions on Board and Timber Measure, Brick-work, and Gauging by the Pen and Slip-Rule.

Carefully revised and corrected by JOSEPH MOON,
MATHEMATICIAN, SALISBURY.

### LONDON:

Printed for S. CROWDER, at No. 12, in Pater-nosser-Row; and B. C. COLLINS, on the New Canal, in Salisbury.

M,DCC,LXXXV.

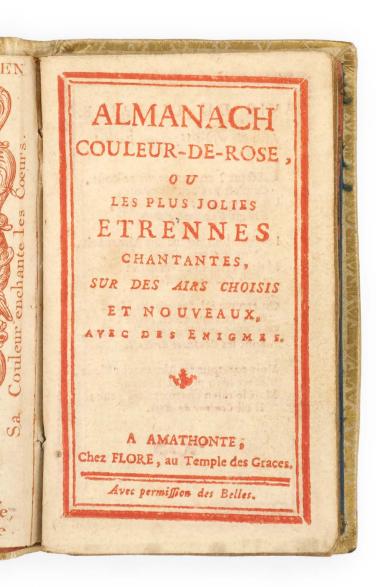
[Price One Shilling and Sixpence. ]

MARVELLOUS METALLIC MOSAIC AND MIRROR ON AN UNRECORDED AMOROUS ALMANACK

**10.** [ALMANACK.] Almanach couleur-de-rose, ou les plus jolies etrennes chantantes, sur des airs choisis et nouveaux, avec des enigmes. 'A Amathonte, chez Flore, au Temple des Graces, avec permission des Belles', [i.e. Paris, Cailleau, 1791?].

32mo, pp. [64], with copper-engraved frontispiece and one folding plate of engraved music; text and plates printed in red, text within border with typographic ornaments; bound around a 16-pp. Calendrier pour l'année M. DCC. XCI.; bound in contemporary white calf with oval mosaic panel mounted beneath glass to each board, within an onlaid red morocco panel with gilt plaquette border, spine gilt in compartments with traces of red colouring, edges gilt, pastedowns of blue silk with silvered glass mirror inlaid to inner front board and a silk pocket to inner rear board, free endpapers of pink silk lined with gilt pink brocade paper, textblock secured by two split pins through the spine, preserved in a gilt red morocco pull-off box lined with blue silk; minor wear to box, calf very slightly darkened, small loss to rear morocco onlay at time of binding, mirror partially tarnished, else superbly preserved.





An unrecorded musical almanack containing amorous songs, printed in red throughout with an engraved frontispiece and a folding plate, issued under a false imprint, in a magnificent binding featuring metallic mosaics *sous verre*, a mirror, morocco onlays, coloured silks, and brocade paper, extremely well-preserved in a silk-lined morocco case.

Rather than disguising the identity of the publisher, who gives his name and a list of his other almanacks on the final page, the false imprint is intended to add to the amatory air of the almanack, with the ancient city of Amathus likely chosen both for the sound of its name and for its association with Aphrodite.

Not on OCLC or CCFr.





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[ARMA CHRISTI.] Storico-critico dettaglio dei SS. Chiodi, Spini, ec. che si venerano nel duomo di Milano ed in quello di Pavia e di Monza. Milan, Tamburini & Valdoni, [c. 1800?].

12mo, pp. 12; woodcut vignette of a nail to title-page; a few spots; pamphlet-stitched in wrappers with a floral pattern printed over printed waste (see below). £450

The earlier of two identifiable editions of this text on the relics of the Instruments of the Passion in Northern Italy, simply but attractively bound in patterned wrappers reusing printed waste from a duodecimo almanack.

The short text describes the history of the Holy Nail preserved in the cathedral of Milan, reportedly from the cross found by St Helena on Calvary in 326, as well as of the Nail preserved in the Iron Crown at Monza, and the Holy Thorn in Pavia. The wrappers use a bifolium from a duodecimo almanack, listing saints' days for February (pp. 25-26) and July (pp. 35-36), overprinted with a floral pattern.

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A HIDDEN MINIATURE DIARY IN A BOOK-FORM BOX

**12.** [MINIATURE BOOKS.] 'Hebdomadaire, ou bibliotheque secrete'. France, c. 1800.

Seven vols, 64mo (56 x 38 mm), each approx. [40] ff., blank; bound in calf (one plain, two in tree calf, the remainder mottled in various colours), borders filleted or roll-tooled in gilt, spines gilt with coloured morocco lettering-pieces (with the days of the week in French), edges stained and speckled in various colours, endbands painted on folded paper, marbled endpapers, together in a red straight-grained morocco book-form box, spine gilt in compartments and lettered 'Hebdomadaire ou bibliotheque secrete' directly in gilt, boards gilt to a geometric design, turn-ins roll-tooled in gilt with a Greek key motif, endbands from gilt red and green morocco, marbled endpapers, a single page with printed border (from a roll-tool?) pasted to a sliding cover concealing the box's contents; case a little dusty and minimally rubbed at extremities, *Dimanche* and *Mercredi* supplied at a later date (early twentieth century?), otherwise an excellent set; ink inscriptions dated September or October 1806 to 3 vols.

A charming miniature diary in seven volumes, hidden within a compartment of a book-form box.









# SPANISH ALMANACKS IN SILK AND SEQUINS

**13. [ALMANACK.]** Kalendario manual y guia de forasteros en Madrid, para el año de 1806. [*Madrid*,] *Imprenta Real*, [1806].

[bound with:]

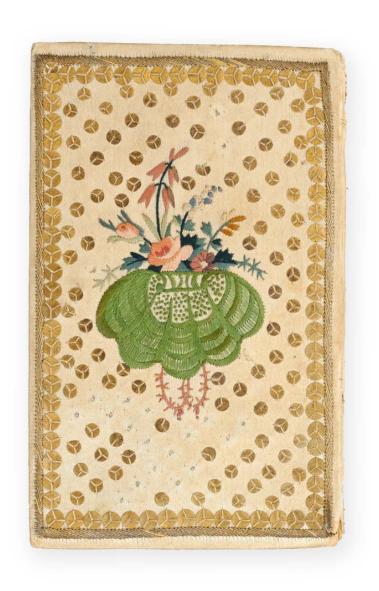
Estado militar de España, año de 1806. [Madrid,] Imprenta Real, [1806].

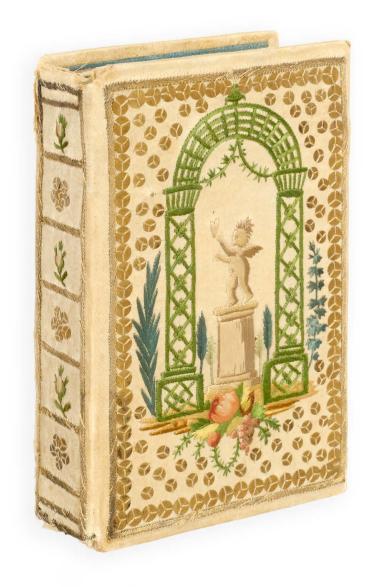
Two works in one volume, 24mo, *Kalendario*: pp. 216, with double-page hand-coloured copper-engraved map and double-page engraving with two portraits, *Estado*: pp. 234, with folding copper-engraved map; both titles engraved; very minor spotting, but very good copies nonetheless; bound together in cream silk embroidered in coloured and metallic threads with metal sequins of two sizes, front board depicting a sculpture of a cherub within a garden with a large trellis arch, rear board depicting an arrangement of flowers, spine embroidered in compartments with floral motifs, edges gilt, blue silk endleaves; minor wear to endcaps and lower joint, several sequins lost from lower board, but overall bright and well-preserved. £2000

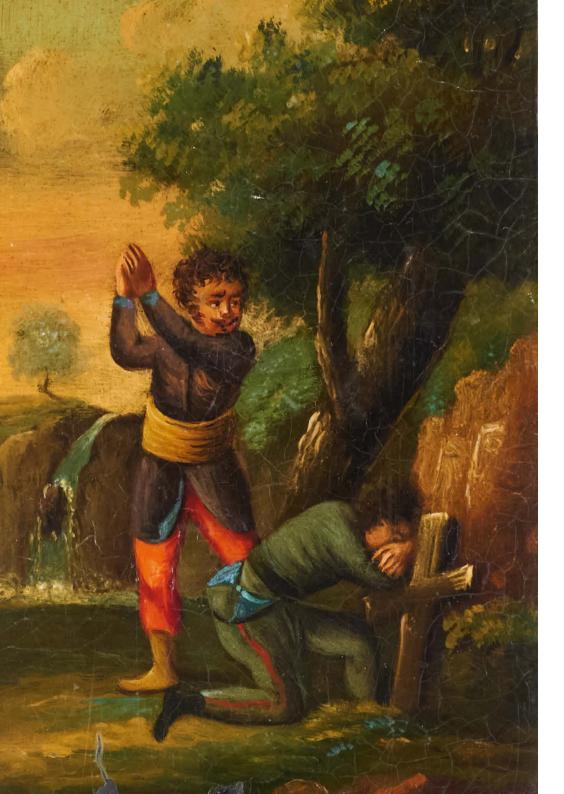
A handsome and well-preserved Spanish embroidered binding, with metallic threads and sequins around a colourful garden scene.

The volume contains two Spanish court almanacks for the year 1806 detailing civil and military appointments, accompanied by a hand-coloured map of Spain, a map of the environs of Madrid, and a double portrait of Charles IV and Queen Maria Louisa.

The design combines elements of sculpture and architecture with flowers and trees to create an idyllic scene reminiscent of a courtly garden.







### PAINTED PANELS

14. [ALMANACK.] Les étrennes de l'amitié. Paris, Le Fuel, [1809?].

32mo, pp. [32], with hand-coloured engraved title and 12 plates, bound with a folding letterpress calendar with woodcut zodiac signs as outermost bifolium; in a contemporary binding of two metal plates painted in oil, varnished, spine of red morocco gilt, edges gilt, silvered glass mirror to inner front board, pocket to inner rear board, blue endpapers; slight craquelure to enamel, a few very small losses, mirror cracked and partially tarnished, but overall very well-preserved.

A delightful almanack with hand-coloured plates, bound between two miniature oil-on-copper paintings with Romantic scenes echoing the illustrations inside.





The volume, a gift book containing a selection of twenty-five short poems, is illustrated by twelve vignettes showing characters in settings from the Roman to the modern. Though not directly copied from the contents, the two panels of the binding continue the same themes, with two men weeping at a grave on the rear board and a woman standing over a sleeping man by moonlight on the front, the varnished metal giving a glistening, lacquer-like effect.

The folding calendar lists the feast days of the Church in France, reestablished under Napoleon, including the dubious feast of the obscure 'St Napoleon' on 16 August, added to the liturgical calendar in 1806 in barely-veiled honour of the Emperor.

### TINY ALMANACK

**15. [ALMANACK.] Le conseiller des** Graces dédié aux Dames, année 1817. *Paris, 'chez Marcilly'*, [1816.]

Miniature book (c. 27 x 18 mm), pp. 64, with 7 full-page engraved illustrations in the text; pp. 62–3 are an advertisment, p. 64 is a paginated blank; slightly dusty and thumbed; but a very good copy in contemporary black gilt morocco.

First and only edition of a delightful microscopic almanack, engraved throughout and with twenty-five pages of illustrated verse at the front.

Welsh 2008; Grand-Carteret 1793; Spielman 102; not in Bondy.









## SILK AND SILVER

**16.** [ALMANACK.] London Almanack for the Year of Christ 1820. [London,] Printed for the Company of Stationers, [1820].

48mo? (54 x 32 mm), pp. [24]; engraved throughout, printed on one side only (doubtless on a single sheet) then cut into bifolia and pasted back-to-back to form a book of 13 ff. with the first recto and last verso blank (here pasted down); four-page view of the London Institution Moorfields, duty stamp to title-page; a very good copy in contemporary blue silk over boards with an outer case formed of 4 hinged silver filigree panels, the fourth panel a clasp at fore-edge, edges gilt; silk rubbed through at board-edges, somewhat sunned where exposed through the filigree, but an excellent example.

£2750

An extraordinary binding of silver filigree over blue silk on a miniature London Almanack for 1820.

The miniature *London Almanack* was first produced in 1749 (surviving in a unique copy at the British Library) and appeared annually until at least 1823. It is typically found in delicate decorative bindings with morocco onlays and gold tooling in geometric patterns and a matching *étui*, produced as fashionable New Year's gifts. The present example, with an outer case of silver filigree to a scrolled foliate design over pale blue silk, was no doubt produced for the highest échelon of the same market. It is notable, however, that bindings of this quality were almost certainly less ephemeral than their contents: it is likely intentional that the silver case could very easily be removed and transferred onto the next year's almanack.



## SHOWING PRINTERS AT WORK

**17. [ALMANACK.]** L'Esprit des chansonniers, extrain [sic?] des meilleurs poëtes. Paris, Le Fuel, [1826?].

32mo?, pp. [64], with engraved title and 5 engraved plates, bound with a folding letterpress calendar (J.M. Eberhart for Le Fuel, 1826) with woodcut zodiac vignettes and a [12] pp. engraved calendar with vignette headpieces interleaved with blanks; minor spotting, but a good copy; bound in a high-relief enamelled brass case with animals among foliage, hinged spine of gilt copper and enamel, enamelled clasps to fore-edge, edges gilt, cream *moiré* pastedowns; textblock detached from case, a few minor chips to enamel; engraved bookplate of Léon Gruel with manuscript catalogue number '1293' tipped in as front flyleaf.

A very rare enamelled metal binding with an enchanting design of birds and squirrels, from the collection of the bookbinder, collector, and bibliographer Léon Gruel.

The enamelled design, featuring swans, peacocks, and squirrels among flowers and foliage, leaves large areas of the metal surface visible, recalling enamelled and jewelled bindings of the Middle Ages rather than the porcelain-like enamel panels seen on German almanacks of the eighteenth century.









The almanack inside comprises three parts: an illustrated literary almanack with a variety of poetry; a folding calendar for 1826, with woodcut zodiac vignettes; and a largely blank diary, with each month headed by an engraved vignette of a profession, among them both 'l'Imprimeur en Lettres' and 'l'Imprimeur en Taille-Douce'.

Provenance: Perhaps the most distinguished French bookbinder of the fin de siècle, Léon Gruel (1841–1923) succeeded his father, Pierre-Paul Gruel, in the atelier of his maternal grandfather Isidore Deforge, founded in 1811. Alongside his commercial work, he collected historic bindings with which to research the history of the craft and published numerous works, most notably the Manuel historique et bibliographique de l'amateur de reliures (1887–1905). The collection was dispersed after his death, with the first portion offered for sale in May 1924.

### LAST WORDS

**18. [TOWNLEY, William Dalison.]** Punch's Pocket-Book for 1877, containing a Calendar, Cash Account, Diary and Memoranda for every Day in the Year, and a Variety of useful business Information. Illustrated by John Tenniel, Charles Keene, and Linley Sambourne. *London*, [*Bradbury, Agnew, & Co. for*] *Punch Office, 1877*.

Two parts in one, 16mo, pp. 144 (with hand-coloured lithographed folding frontispiece and a further 9 lithographed plates);145–208 (with lithographed part-title and a further 7 lithographed plates; slightly shaken; otherwise a very good copy in the publisher's wallet binding of red diced roan; light wear to extremities, a few scuffs to upper cover; ownership inscription 'Townley WD, Fulbourn, Cambridge' to front free endpaper, 3 pp. of manuscript 'Cash Accounts' records and 59 entries in 'Diary and Memoranda' in the same hand, a further six entries in another hand (see below), twentieth-century booklabel 'Peter A. Crofts, "Briar Patch", Elm' to front free endpaper with price and 'T Townley' in pencil.

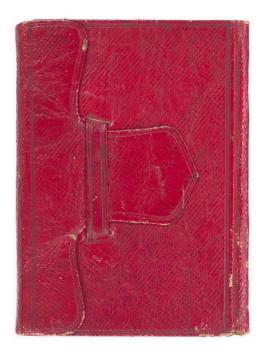
A *Punch* almanack for 1877 with nearly sixty manuscript diary entries by the seventeen-year-old William Dalison Townley of Fulbourn, near Cambridge, written during the period of illness immediately preceding his untimely death.



The almanack is divided into two parts, the first containing information on, *inter alia*, plays and exhibitions, sovereigns and heads of government, and insurance offices and army agents in London, to which are added blank Cash Accounts tables and a daily diary for the owner to fill in; the second part contains various humorous stories and poems. William Dalison Townley (1860–1877) was the third son of Charles Watson Townley of Fulbourn Manor in Cambridgeshire, and here provides daily accounts of the weather ('beastly day', 'filthy day'), visitors and gifts (including 10 shillings from the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire and a valentine from his daughter) and notable events ('Duddles [his cousin, Dudley Newman?] announced his engagement by letter to Mother (good luck to him.)'; 'Fanney brought the musical box with her which [his brother] Walter has lent me'), including his family's comings and goings to and from London and Eton ('I hope [Walter] will come home at Easter a 5th form boy').



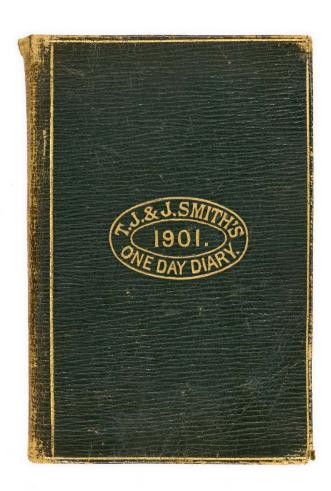
William's final entry, on 5 March 1877, simply reads 'Fine day.' 6 March is blank, and the following days have been poignantly filled in (presumably by his mother, Georgiana Townley, *née* Dalison): 'I was called a little before five to my precious boy – he had been in pain all night. The beginning of the end', and, two days later, 'My darling was taken from me about 3.30 this morning. I have lost a priceless treasure. God help me.'



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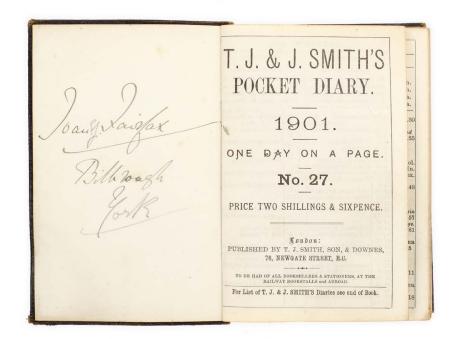
# CROQUET, CONCERTS, AND COUNTRY LIFE

**19. [FAIRFAX, Joan.]** T.J. & J. Smith's Pocket Diary. 1901 ... London, T.J. Smith, Son, & Downes, [1901].

16mo, pp. [10 (title-page, 'almanack', advertisements)], c. ff. 125 of text, the remainder blank; written in a largely legible hand in pencil and ink, the pencil on occasions faded; one or two pages dusty, else in very good condition in the original green limp roan, gilt, spine sunned and covers slightly creased, patterned endpapers, remains of green silk place-marker.

A manuscript diary for 1901 detailing a year in the life of Joan Fairfax, a twenty-one-year-old aristocratic woman living in Yorkshire at the very end of the Victorian era, describing balls, social calls, and motherhood.

Fairfax (née Wilson, 1880–1960), living in Bilbrough, Yorkshire in 1901, was the daughter of Charles Henry Wilson, first baron Nunburnholme, and was Eve Fairfax's sister-in-law, being married (in 1899) to her brother Guy Thomas Fairfax. The Yorkshire Fairfaxes were an ancient Catholic family most notably descended from Thomas Fairfax, the parliamentarian general of the Civil Wars. Eve (famously the subject of a bust by Rodin) is mentioned in numerous descriptions of shopping trips and balls, and in London for lunch on the day of Queen Victoria's funeral, when Joan attends the memorial service at Westminster Abbey and later the concert of 'dead marches' in the Albert Hall.



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A stultifying sense of the regularity of her other obligations – the diary opens with Joan sitting for her portrait, for whole days at a time – hunting, bridge, croquet and social calls, belies what appears to be a quietly contented life of privilege. Joan enjoys balls greatly and frequently records staying 'to the end' or returning home at six in the morning. Domestic duties and motherhood are balanced with Joan's sporting and social life, with newlyborn 'Baby' (Gavin Thomas, the couple's only child and a future solicitor) being taken on numerous excursions into York by Joan or found in the care of wet-nurses. Much time is spent 'going round' the house, *i.e.* checking everything is in order, or showing guests round. Guy Thomas had a new house built at this time to replace the seventeenth-century manor built for Thomas Fairfax, and Joan records a trip to the top of the unfinished pile to see the view. A particularly charming and almost furtively added note records a visit after dinner with guests to see the 'ghost rooms' of the ancient house.

Country life is punctuated by intellectual pursuits: plays in London and a trip there specially to purchase tickets for the opera festival in Bayreuth, presumably from an agent; painting at home; and a note referring to the completion of 'my piece of Russian work'.

Monday, January 21, 1901.

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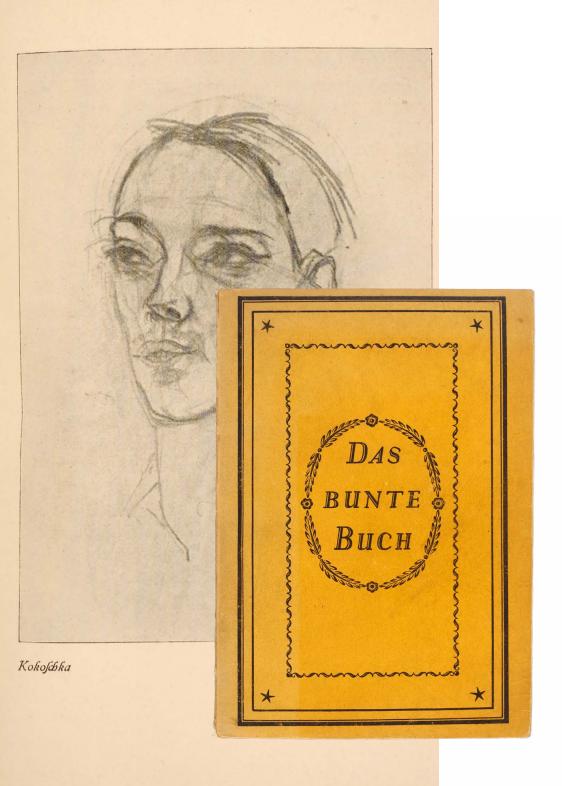
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# WITH CONTRIBUTIONS BY KAFKA AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY KOKOSCHKA

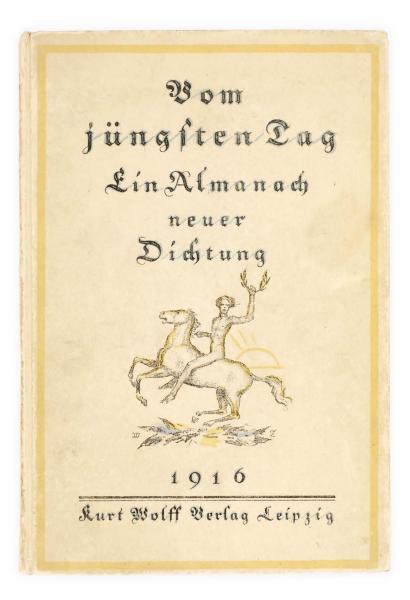
**20. [KAFKA, Franz, Max BROD, et al.]** Das bunte Buch. *Leipzig, Kurt Wolff Verlag, 1914.* 

8vo, pp. 207, 14 plates with illustrations by Karl Walser, Kokoschka, and others; a very good copy in the original orange stiff paper wrappers designed by Wilhelm Wagner; light sunning to wrappers, slight cracking to spine and with small loss at foot.

First edition of this literary almanack, containing Kafka's short story Zum Nachdenken für Herrenreiter. The story had been published as part of Kafka's first collection, Betrachtung, earlier in the year.

This was the first almanack published by Kurt Wolff, comprising twenty-six literary contributions by Blei, Brod, Hasenclever, Heym, Lasker-Schüler, Trakl, Viertel, Walser, Werfel, and others. It also includes (pp. 145–207) a full 'Verlagsverzeichnis 1910–1913', advertising works by Kafka among the many other authors published by Wolff.

Dietz 22; Hemmerle, p. 20.



# WITH A FRAGMENT OF KAFKA'S TRIAL

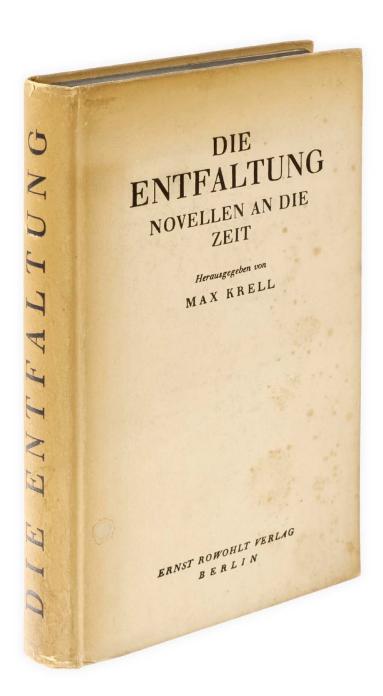
**21. [KAFKA, Franz, et al.]** Vom jüngsten Tag. Ein Almanach neuer Dichtung. *Leipzig,* [W. *Drugulin for*] *Kurt Wolff, 1916.* 

8vo, pp. 280; gothic letter; light browning to page edges; but a very good copy in the original illustrated boards by Walter Tiemann, edges stained blue; lightly discoloured, joints rubbed. £250

First edition of the first collective publication of the younger generation of German writers Wolff had assembled under the rubric of *Der jüngste Tag*.

The Expressionist literary almanack *Der jüngste Tag (The Last Judgment)* contains the first appearance in book form of Kafka's parable 'Vor dem Gesetz' ('Before the Law'), first published in 1915 in the Zionist weekly newspaper *Selbstwehr*. A fragment of what would later be *Der Prozess (The Trial)*, it then appeared in Kafka's collection of short stories *Ein Landartzt* (1920) but would not be published separately until 1934. The almanack also includes contributions from Ernst Stadler, Carl Sternheim, Georg Trakl, Georg Heym, Walter Hasenclever, Albert Ehrenstein, Johannes Becher, Max Brod, Ernst Blass, Else Lasker-Schüler, Rene Schickele, Franz Werfel, Robert Walser, and many others.

Dietz 28; Göbel, col. 922.



# EXPRESSIONIST EXTRACTS

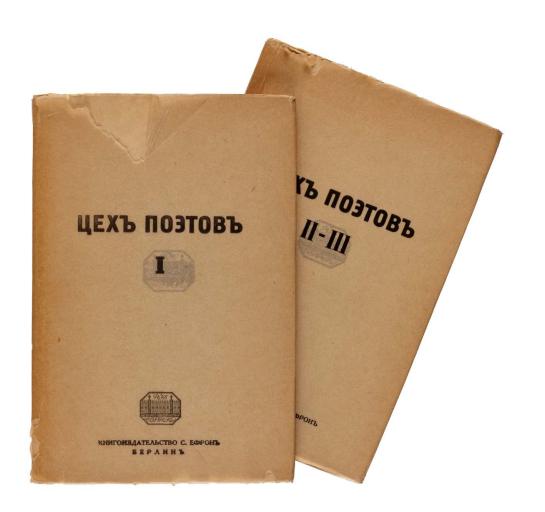
**22. [KAFKA, Franz, et al.] Max KRELL, editor.** Die Entfaltung. Novellen an die Zeit. *Berlin, Ernst Rowohlt Verlag, 1921.* 

8vo, pp. XIII, [3], 288; variable browning, short closed tear to last leaf not touching text; in the original printed paper boards, top-edge stained black; dampstaining to upper board, spine browned. £100

First edition of this important prose anthology of contemporary writers, compiled by the literary critic Max Krell, including a short story by Kafka.

It includes first appearances of works by Gottfried Benn, Max Brod, Kasimir Edschmid, Franz Jung, Wilhelm Lehman, Gustav Sack, Albert Steffen, Ernst Weiss and Franz Werfel. Other contributors include Alfred Döblin, Albert Ehrenstein, Franz Kafka ('Ein Brudermord' from the collection Ein Landarzt), Else Lasker-Schüler, Heinrich Mann, Ludwig Meidner, René Schickele, Carl Sternheim, and others.

Dietz 55; Hemmerle, p. 26.



# MANDELSTAM AND GUMILEV

23. [POETS' GUILD.] Tsekh Poetov I [-III]. Berlin, S. Efron, 1922[-3].

Two volumes, 8vo, pp. 89, [7]; 114, [6], with initial and terminal blanks in each volume; fine copies in the original stiff paper wrappers, covers stamped gilt with the publisher's device, original printed glassine jackets, chipped.

£1250

First edition of this literary almanack from the newly re-established Poets' Guild, first formed in 1911 and with members including Gumilev, Gorodetsky, and Mandelstam, the core of whom became known as the Acmeists.

'With the coming of the First World War and the Revolution, Guild meetings ceased', though publishing continued for another year (Terras, *Handbook of Russian Literature*). Part I here comprises work from this first incarnation of the Guild, including two poems ('Tristia' and 'Cherepakha') and an essay by Mandelstam, and poems by Sologub, Kuzmin, and Blok.

Towards the end of 1920 in St Petersburg some of the poets who had been part of the original Guild decided to re-form, the founder members being Gumilev, Ivanov, Lozinsky, and Otsup. The new Guild issued several almanacks: *Novyi Giperborei* (1921), *Drakon* (1921) and the present work. Parts II and III here contain work written since around 1918, including six poems and an essay by Gumilev, who had been arrested and executed by the Cheka in August 1921. Mandelstam later followed a similar fate, exiled in 1934, finally arrested and sent to his death in a Gulag camp in 1938.

# CONCRETE CALENDAR

**24. SCHAROO, P[ieter] W[ilhelmus].** Betonkalender voor 1931 ... 19e Jaargang. *Amsterdam, L.J. Veen's Uitgevers mij. N.V.,* [1930].

8vo, pp. [22], 319, [1 (advertisement)] with 5 plates advertisements; 11, [1 (advertisement)], [128 (diary, blanks)]; second segment printed on red paper, third on grid paper, endpapers advertising 'green stripe' cement and printed in green and black; light foxing at fore-edge, otherwise very good; bound in the publisher's brown cloth by the Amsterdam binders J. Brandt & Zoon, spine and upper cover embossed in imitation of concrete. £185

A Dutch concrete calendar for 1931 advertising high-strength German cement, published by the Nederlandsch Cement-Syndicaat in the Hague, here in the publisher's binding incorporating elements of imitation concrete.

Pieter Wilhelmus Scharoo (1883–1963) taught hydraulic engineering at the Royal Military Academy at Breda and served as an officer in the Corps of Engineers from 1904 to 1940; his works on concrete – advocating strongly for a national cement industry – were published as early as 1908. The present work is the nineteenth annual *Beton-Kalender*, modelled after the German *Beton-Kalender: Taschenbuch für Beton- und Stahlbetonbau sowie die verwandten Fächer* issued annually from 1905.

Volgens N 482 mag het begin der binding van een deeg van enkel aluminiumcement en water niet plaats hebben binnen 1 uur na het oogenblik, waarop het water voor den aanmaak aan het deeg werd toegevoegd. Voor bijzondere doeleinden kan aluminiumcement worden verlangd, dat sneller bindt en dat als zoodanig moet zijn gewaarmerkt.

Vori zelfde ei gesteld.

Vast verhardin welke bij verkregen vastheid een verha zoo groot In N

in kg/cm

na een v

cement

GROEVEREEP CEMENT 50 KG BRUTO NEDERLANDSCH CEMENT-SYNDICART

elden deent werden

mel. Na een eid bereikt, agen wordt cel hoogere en wel is na e à viermaal

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Een gedige van tel ma

het inwen-De moren ver-

werkt. Bovendien moeten, vooral onmiddellijk na de binding, de bekistingen nat worden gehouden, om het verwijderen hiervan mogelijk te maken, daar het buitenvlak van de mortel langeren tijd eenigszins zachter blijft dan het overig deel. In verband met de snelle verharding mag het werk niet worden onderbroken, daar, zelfs met de meeste zorg, het maken van de aansluitnaden gevaarlijk blijft.

='s-GRAVENHAGE=

Door de grootere spanningen, welke beton van alumi-

18

Volgens N 482 mag het begin der binding van een beg van enkel aluminiumeement en water niet plaats abben binnen 1 uur na het oogenblik, waarop het ater voor den aanmaak aan het deeg werd toesvoegd. Voor bijzondere doeleinden kan aluminiumment worden verlangd, dat sneller bindt en dat als bodanig moet zijn gewaarmerkt.

Vormhoudendheid. Hiervoor gelden delfde eischen, als in 5 voor Portland-cement werden steld.

Vastheid. De verharding geschiedt zeer snel. Na een rharding van 24 uren wordt reeds de vastheid bereikt, lke bij Portland-cementmortels eerst na 28 dagen wordt ekregen. Met aluminiumcement wordt een veel hoogere stheid verkregen dan met Portland-cement, en wel is na verharding van 24 uren, de drukvastheid drie à viermaal groot als bij gebruik van Portland-cement.

In N 482 wordt betreffende de minimumvastheid kg/cm² van een mortel van 1 gewichtsdeel aluminiumnent op 3 gewichtsdeelen normaalzand, geëischt een verhardingsduur van:

| 1 + 2 etm.  | trek<br>druk |  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 1 + 6 etm.  | trek<br>druk |  |
| 1 + 27 etm. | trek         |  |

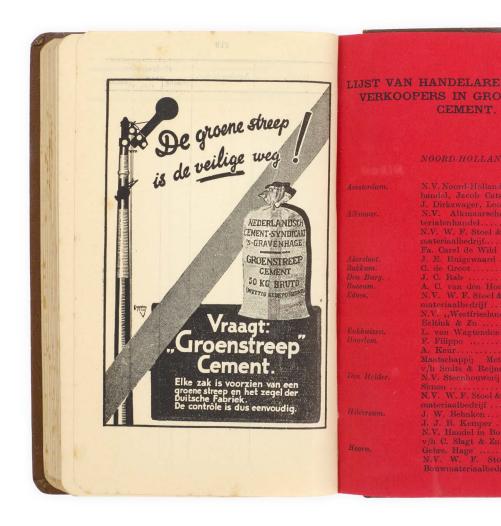
Cen gevaar is, dat de verharding begint in het inwene van de mortel, waarbij water vrijkomt. De morl mag dus niet te nat worden verrkt. Bovendien moeten, vooral onmiddellijk na deling, de bekistingen nat worden gehouden, om het
wijderen hiervan mogelijk te maken, daar het buitenvlak
de mortel langeren tijd eenigszins zachter blijft dan
overig deel. In verband met de snelle verharding mag
werk niet worden onderbroken, daar, zelfs met de
ste zorg, het maken van de aansluitnaden gevaarlijk

oor de grootere spanningen, welke beton van alumincement kan opnemen, worden de afmetingen van de structies beperkt.



The Betonkalender for 1931 contains, as well as a daily agenda, descriptions of cement types, T-beams, and numerous advertisements for 'groene streep' ('green stripe') cement, so named for its distinctive green-striped packaging, as well as edelcement.

A and B classifications for cement had only been developed in 1929: 'Besides normal Portland cement, classified as Class A cement, a Portland cement with early high strength was available, classified as Class B. Such cements were sold as edelcement ("noble cement"), supercement, or groenstreepcement' (Heidemann, Historic Concrete (2013), p. 83).



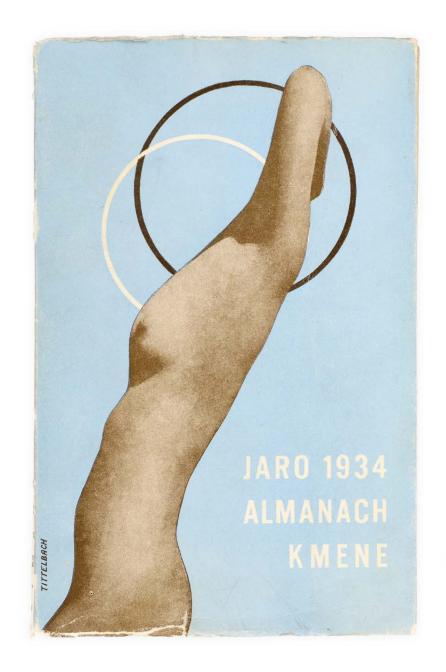
# EINSTEIN, MANN, AND THE CZECH AVANT-GARDE

**25.** [ALMANACK.] Almanach Kmene jaro 1934. [(Colophon:) Prague, Kmen, May 1934.]

8vo, pp. 206, [18 (advertisements)], with half-title; 8 black-and-white photographic plates, numerous in-text illustrations; ink slightly smudged at final two works; a good copy in the original wrappers by Vojtěch Tittelbach; spine coming away from textblock slightly, corners and extremities somewhat chipped and worn, some creasing to spine.

A literary almanack for 1934 by the modernist Czech publishing house Kmen, containing short stories by the likes of Nezval and Hrubín and photographs by Sudek, as well as Czech translations of recent works by Einstein and Mann.

The striking cover by the Czech modernist Vojtěch Tittelbach (1900–1971) depicts a nude woman, her head replaced by interlocking circles. There are pieces by Karel and Josef Čapek, Jiří Haussmann, and FX Šalda, *inter alia*, as well as Czech translations of Albert Einstein's plea for disarmament delivered at the 1932 World Disarmament Conference ('the hardly bought achievements of the machine age in the hands of our generation are as dangerous as a razor in the hands of a three-year-old child', *trans.*), and of extracts from Thomas Mann's *Die Geschichten Jaakobs* and *L'instinct du bonheur* by André Maurois.



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nická:

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J. Sudek: Fotografie

Ti Hellool

'Twenty-three [publishing] firms banded together in 1926 to form "Kmen", the Club of Modern Publishers ... Distinguishing themselves from both "the official traditional firms which lack any relation to the artistic present and offer their readers the works of older authors" and "the publishers of worthless or even bad books, which we want to thoroughly suppress with our activities", Kmen stood for "the beautiful book" ... Between 1 January 1928 and 15 September 1930 alone, Kmen affiliates between them published 225 foreign authors in Czech translation, who included Babel, Baudelaire, Bulgakov, Jarry, O. Henry, Pirandello, Rimbaud, Upton Sinclair, Maurois, George Bernard Shaw, and Virginia Woolf' (Sayer, The Coasts of Bohemia: A Czech History (2007), p. 207).

je první větší My, ktere v cloveku narusta. wnauý člověk je od ná-

tury kolektivní; logicky se to jeví sklonem ke generalisaci citově potřebou družnosti a kamarádství.

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