



# Sotheran's

EST. LONDON 1761

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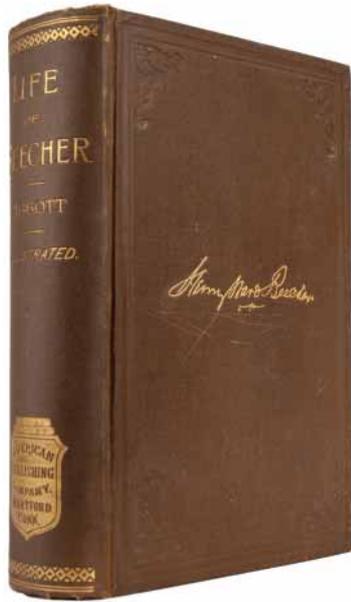
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# Black History

This issue is not relevant for one month of the year only (we do have an official Black History month in Britain, in October 2022). Slavery with all its brutality, murder and dehumanization as an easy means of enrichment, enacted by perpetrators sufficiently educated in Christianity to have known this to be the 'National Sin', still reverberates through societies today. I find it rather astonishing how long it took after the last slave owner's estate had been paid the full compensation for 'lost property' triggered by the final abolition of slavery in the British Empire (soon to be supplanted by bonded labour and similar 'legal' superstructures) for this issue to enter the debate of wider society. The glimpses of hope past and present are the encouraging movements for liberation and self-determination, re-humanization, education and proud resistance, by lives lived by activists of all creeds and colours working against racism and hypocrisy. If we don't know or want to know history, how can we ever deal with it?

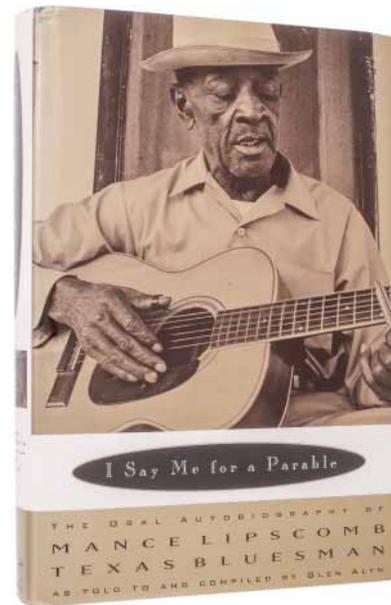
The logo for Sotheran's, featuring a large, elegant, blackletter-style 'S' that loops around the top of the word 'Sotheran's'.  
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1. ABBOTT, Lyman, and Samuel Byram HALLIDAY. *Henry Ward Beecher: A Sketch of his Career: With Analyses of His Power as a Preacher, Lecturer, Orator and Journalist, and Incidents and Reminiscences of His Life ... Characterizations and personal Reminiscences, contributed by thirty-nine eminent writers. Also Mr. Beecher's Life as sketched by himself shortly before his Death.* Hartford, Conn., American Publishing Company, 1887. £198

8vo. Original brown cloth, spine lettered in gilt, front cover with Beecher's facsimile signature in gilt, ornamented in blind, patterned endpapers; pp. [ii]-xii, [4], [13]-670, lithographic plates, steel-engraved portrait-frontispiece with loose tissue guard, light spotting to frontispiece and title, otherwise near-fine.

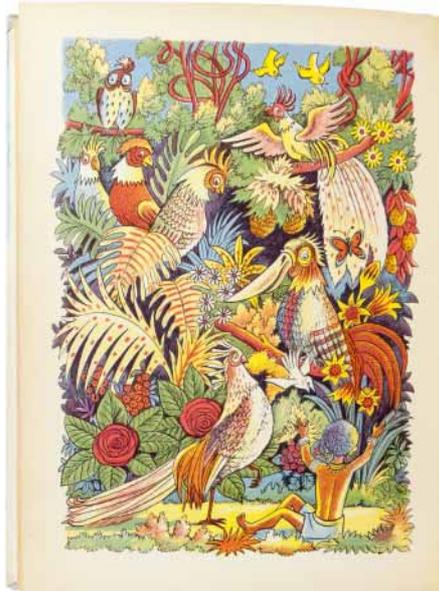
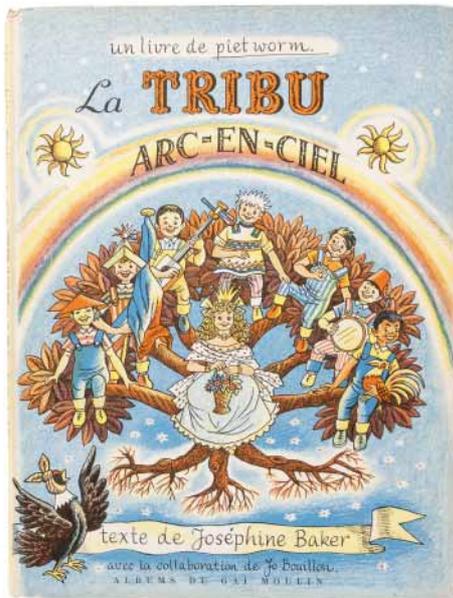
First edition of the substantially enlarged version (first, and shorter, 1883). Beecher, brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe, was an effective American nineteenth century orator, noted for his support of the abolition of slavery and the suffrage of women, as well as his friendship with some of the century's most famous writers, including Henry Thoreau, Mark Twain, and Walt Whitman. Among his many daring exploits were the *Beecher Bibles*, trunks of guns sent to abolitionist settlers for self defence, marked as *Bibles*. In 1863 Lincoln had sent Beecher on an extensive lecture tour to Europe, where he shifted popular support away from the Confederate States. When the war drew to a close, in April 1865, Beecher was invited to speak at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, where the first shots of the war had been fired in 1861. Lincoln, who had chosen Beecher to deliver the speech, stated, 'We had better send Beecher down to deliver the address on the occasion of raising the flag because if it had not been for Beecher there would have been no flag to raise' (Debbly Applegate, *The Most Famous Man in America. The Biography of Henry Ward Beecher*, p. 6). Among the contributors to the testimonies about Beecher's life and work are one Rabbi, and several Scottish ministers.



2. ALYN, Glen *I Say Me for a Parable: The Oral Autobiography of Mance Lipscomb, Texas Bluesman.* W. Norton & Company, 1993. £100

8vo., pp. 508. Brown cloth-backed cream publishers boards with title in gilt to spine. Small scuff to upper board, otherwise fine. Jacket slightly nicked at extremities, otherwise near fine.

Mance Lipscomb was an American blues singer and guitarist. The name 'Mance' was taken by the singer at a young age, and is a shortened version of 'Emancipation'. First edition of this oral autobiography.



3. BAKER, Josephine and Jo BOUILLON (authors). Piet WORM (illustrator). *La Tribu Arc-En-Ciel*. Amsterdam; Mulder & Zoon N.V.; Paris, Opera Mundi. 1957. £798

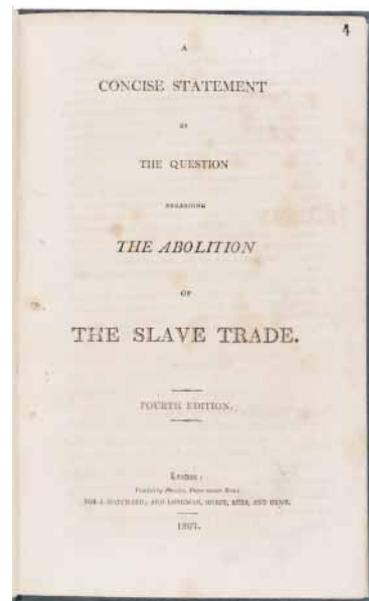
4to. Original linen-textured pictorial boards illustrated to both covers, pictorial pastedowns; pp. [60]; joyfully illustrated throughout on every page in vibrant colours including several double-page spreads, with accompanying text in calligraphic font; a very clean and attractive copy with small splits to joints at head of spine, a couple of tiny nicks to tail, and very light wear to edges and corners; internally clean throughout with a little mild toning to stock.

First edition, extravagantly signed to front blank in blue ink by Josephine Baker: "A Mille. [ ], Souvenir de Josephine Baker, et les petits, 1958". Written in collaboration with her fourth husband, Jo Bouillon, and featuring her "rainbow" children of all races.

Freda Josephine MacDonald (1906-1975) was born in St. Louis, Missouri, to Carrie Macdonald and, apparently, the vaudeville drummer Eddie Carson, although the identity of her father has long been in dispute. Her mother was the adopted daughter of a couple in Little Rock, Arkansas, who were former slaves of Black African and Native American descent. Josephine Baker,

as she later became (taking the surname of the second of her four husbands) is internationally known as a former dancer, entertainer, human rights activist, and French resistance agent who was the first person of colour to become a world famous entertainer. Her celebrity developed in her adoptive country, France, where she famously headlined at the Folies Bergère and where her brave work for the French Resistance in World War II was acknowledged with the award of the highest French order of merit, the National Order of the Legion of Honour.

In the early 1950s, to further her belief in equality and her desire for interracial harmony, she nurtured a worthy dream to create a utopian multiracial family (prefiguring the activities of Mia Farrow, Madonna, and Angelina Jolie) and to this end adopted, over a period of years, a total of 12 disadvantaged children from different countries ranging from Finland to Venezuela. She and her fourth husband, Jo Bouillon, installed their "Rainbow Tribe" in a 15th century chateau in the South of France called "Les Milandes" which the couple developed into an entertainment park, charging for public admission to hear the children sing and perform. This project, which proved to be ill-fated, forms the background for this children's book.



4. [BROUGHAM, Henry Peter]. *A Concise Statement of the Question regarding the Abolition of the Slave Trade*. Fourth Edition. London, Hatchard, 1807. £545

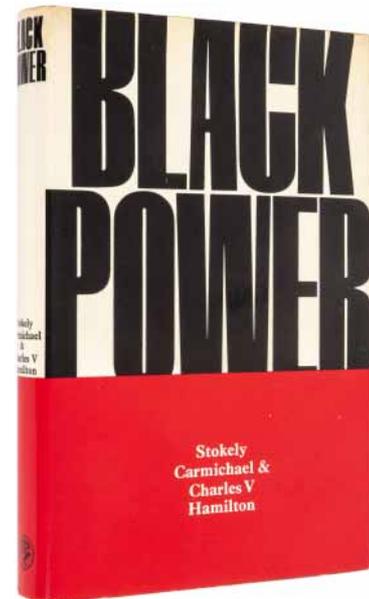
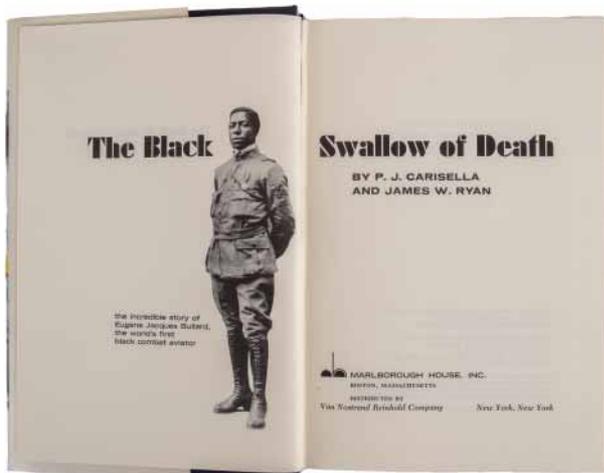
8vo. Modern boards with printed title label; pp. 103; stab holes from previous interim binding, lightly spotted and browned; otherwise good.

Ever since 1792 Parliament had debated motions to 'gradually' abolish the slave trade from Africa. In 1804, when this pamphlet had appeared for the first time (in a much shorter version), the successful Santo Domingo slave rebellion had triggered social unrest in neighbouring Jamaica, and abolitionism seemed to be one way to save the colonial system. The Scottish lawyer and co-founder of the *Edinburgh Review* here analyzes the economic arguments for, and benefits of slavery, before describing the practice of the acquisition of slaves in Africa, and their fate in the New World.



8vo. Original blue cloth, lettered in cerise and white; illustrated dust-wrappers (not price-clipped); pp. xi, [3], 271, illustrations in the text after photographs; a fine copy.

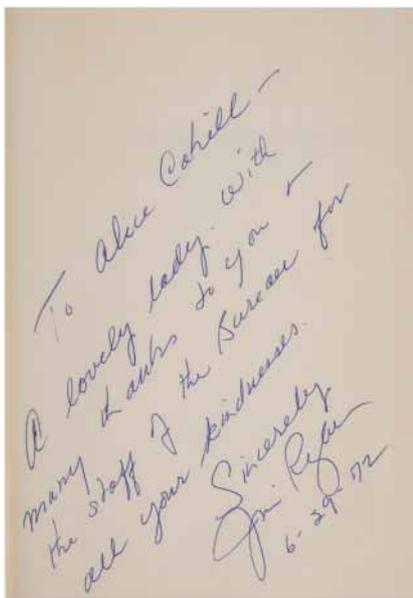
Uncommon first edition, presentation copy, inscribed by James W. Ryan to Alice Cahill, thanking her for support on front fly-leaf. This is an unusual biography with preface by Edward William Brooke, the first African American popularly elected to the United States Senate. The two authors (WWI historians and aviation writers) had used Bullard's unpublished memoirs and did some original research of this incredible life as a highly decorated French fighter pilot of Afro-American origin, Jazz musician, nightclub owner, boxer, Louis Armstrong's translator, and much more.



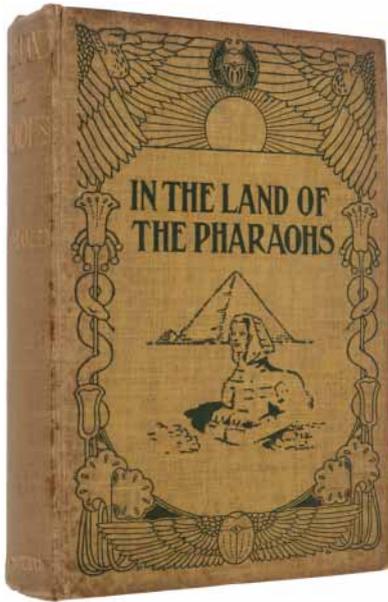
6. CARMICHAEL, Stokely, and Charles V. HAMILTON. Black Power. The Politics of Liberation in America. London, Jonathan Cape, [1968]. £275

8vo. Original boards with dust-wrappers (price-clipped); pp. xiv, 198; a very attractive copy.

First UK edition. Beautifully designed and printed on good paper, this is a classic work in the history of the Black liberation and the Civil Rights movement. - Gift inscription, dated April 1968, with the motto *Integration or Disintegration?* to front fly-leaf.



5. CARISELLA, P.J., and James W. RYAN. The Black Swallow of Death. The Incredible Story of Eugene Jacques Bullard, the World's First Black Combat Aviator. Boston, Marlborough House, [1972]. £398

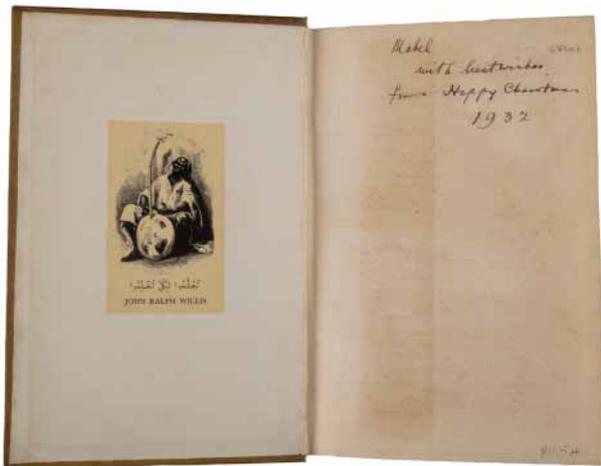


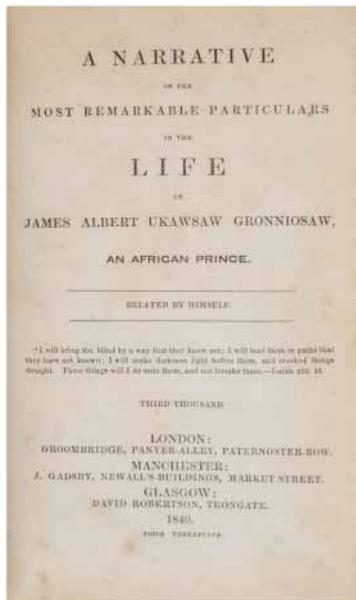
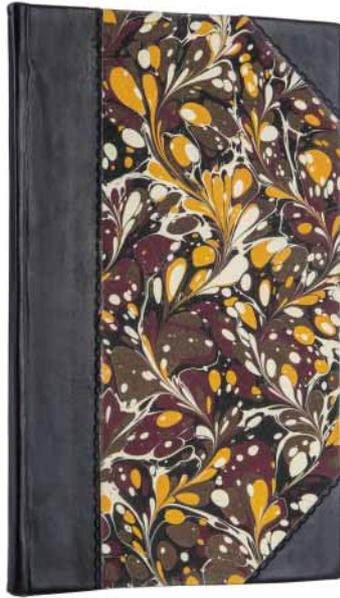
7. DUSE MOHAMED [known as; originally Duse Mohamed ALI]. *In the Land of the Pharaohs*. London, Stanley Paul, [1911]. £365

8vo. Original illustrated cloth; pp. xii, 380, portrait frontispiece with tissue guard, plates after photographs; cloth a little darkened and spotted, occasional spotting internally; bookplate with text in Arabic of John Ralph Willis inside front cover; gift inscription on opposite fly-leaf.

First edition of probably the first book in English on Egypt by an Egyptian. Duse Mohamed had a Sudanese mother and an Egyptian father who had been killed in 1882 at Tell al-Kebir fighting the British. Duse Mohamed went to England to study medicine but ended up as a stage actor and journalist on both sides of the Atlantic. He was an anti-colonial campaigner and collaborated with Marcus Garvey, before settling in Nigeria where he founded the most successful Nigerian weekly periodical of the time. 'In 1911 he published the *Land of the Pharaohs*, described accurately by the *New York Times* as 'a fervent document in favour of the Egyptian nationalist movement and the ultimate freedom of Egypt, at least from the British yoke, and a most scathing denunciation of British rule in Egypt' (*New York Times*, 8 Oct 1911). The book became famous not only for its politics, but because Ali was accused of plagiarism of some passages from the writings of Wilfrid Scawen Blunt. It was nevertheless a huge success with Africans and the African diaspora' (ODNB).

*Provenance:* John Ralph Willis (1939-2007) was an eminent Afro-American Muslim Historian, teaching and researching at Princeton.





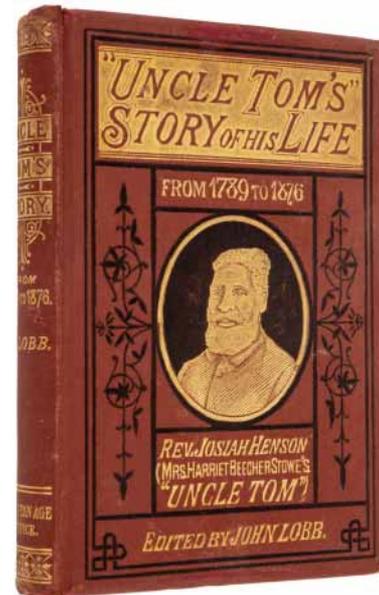
9. GRONNIOSAW, James Albert Ukawsaw. *A Narrative of the Most Remarkable Particulars in the Life of James Albert Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, an African Prince. Related by Himself.* London, Groombridge; Manchester, J. Gadsby and Glasgow, David Robertson, 1840. £3,250

8vo. Recent half-calf over marbled board; pp. 24, only light toning or spotting throughout, a good copy of a great rarity.

'One of the earliest slave narratives printed in the English language and the first published book by an African in the UK' (International Slavery Museum, online, part of Liverpool Museums). Gronniosaw's uncommon narrative was first published in Bath in 1770 and was reprinted many times, mainly not in London, including in Welsh. All editions are very rare. Gronniosaw begins his narrative by reporting that he was born around 1705 in the city of Baurnou (Bornu in Northeastern Nigeria) where his mother was the eldest daughter of the reigning king. When he was about 15 years old he was tricked into accompanying a visiting merchant to the Gold Coast, where he was sold to a Dutch captain for two yards of check cloth. The captain took

him to Barbados where he was sold for £15 to a young man from New York. Later he is sold on for £50 to a minister named Freelandhouse (actually Theodorus Freylinghuysen) who instructs him in Christianity and sends him to school to be taught by someone named Vanosdore. Gronniosaw has a conversion experience and is freed and given £10 by Freelandhouse's will. He remains with his benefactor's widow and her four sons for another four years until the last son dies and he is left on his own. Gronniosaw then finds employment as a cook on a privateer and subsequently as a soldier in the British Army, in order to earn the money for the fare to England. There he marries Betty, a young English widow and is cheated and mistreated by some and helped by others including a group of Quakers. At the end of the narrative he describes his situation as precarious, but his Christian devotion remains strong.

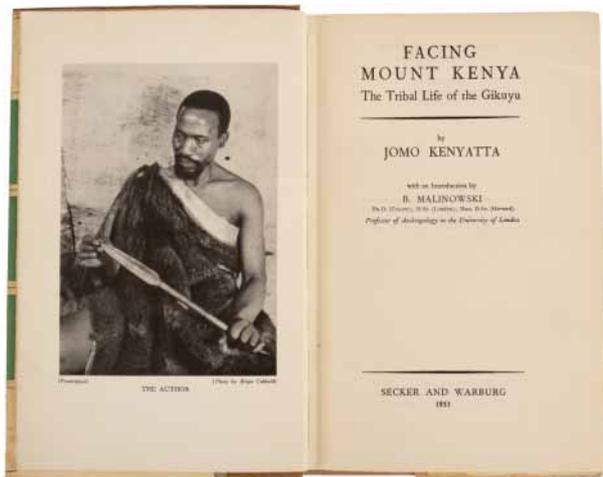
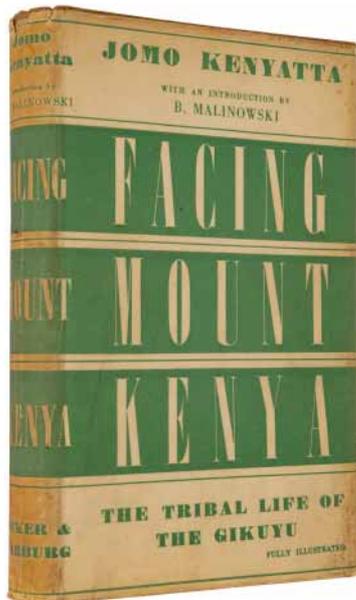
The last copy of this title to be sold at auction fetched over \$11,000. It is the copy of the 1770 (or 1772) Bath printing; now at Liverpool Museums.



10. HENSON, Josiah, and John LOBB [editor]. "Uncle Tom's Story of His Life." An Autobiography of the Rev. Josiah Henson (Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom"). From 1789 to 1876 ... Fifty-fifths Thousand. London, "Christian Age" Office, 1877. £975

8vo. Original red pictorial cloth with bevelled edges, all edges gilt; pp. 236, two wood-engraved portraits; apart from light spotting initially, and repair to lower hinge, a beautiful copy.

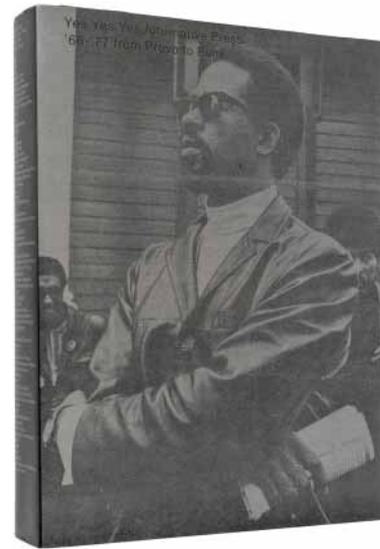
'Henson used the publication of Stowe's books to agitate for change in the United States. He re-published his memoir and used the funds to purchase his brother's freedom. He supported black families whose husbands and fathers went off to fight in the Civil War. He ran businesses in Canada to employ black refugees. In 1876, at age 87, Henson did a 100-plus city speaking tour of the United Kingdom to relieve himself of debts shouldered on behalf of the work at Dawn, and Queen Victoria invited him to Windsor Castle. Sixteen years after the Civil War ended, Rutherford B. Hayes entertained him at the White House' (*The Story of Josiah Henson, the Real Inspiration for 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'*, in: Smithsonian Magazine, online). - We have only seen this printing, and no earlier one on the market.



11. KENYATTA, Jomo. Facing Mount Kenya. The Tribal Life of the Gukuyu ... with an Introduction by B. Malinowski. [London], Secker and Warburg, 1953. £498

8vo. Original cloth with dust-wrappers (not price-clipped); pp. xxi, [5], portrait -frontispiece, sketch map and plates after photographs, apart from light spotting and marginal fraying to wrappers and a little offsetting from endpapers, ownership inscription, dated Keny 1954 on front fly-leaf, a very good copy of a rare work.

First published in 1938, this anthropological book is the first by the father of modern Kenya. Kenyatta, a anti-colonial activist, had studied under Bronislaw Malinowski in the 1930s at UCL. The first edition was well received in academic circles but sold only 517 copies. The blurb on the front flap of the wrapper of this second edition states that the facts about the Gikuyu are now 'essential for understanding Mau Mau and the present troubles in Kenya'. In 1952 Kenyatta had been arrested charged with masterminding the anti-colonial Mau Mau Uprising. He remained in prison until 1961.

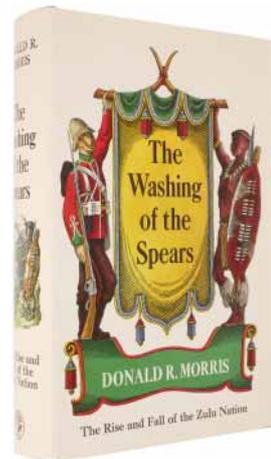


12. [MARTEGANI, Amedeo.; Emanuele De DONNO, Ed.] Yes Yes Yes Alternative Press. '66-'77 from Provo to Punk. Milan & Rome: a+mbookstore & VIAINDUSTRIAE publishing, 2016. £125

Folio, plain soft card covers printed in black; textured jacket printed with black and white photograph to upper cover; pp. 493, [iii]; containing 64 full-page and full-colour photographs followed by 493 pages of text; corner creases to flaps; some faint marks to edges and lower panel of jacket; else near-fine.

Limited to 1000 copies.

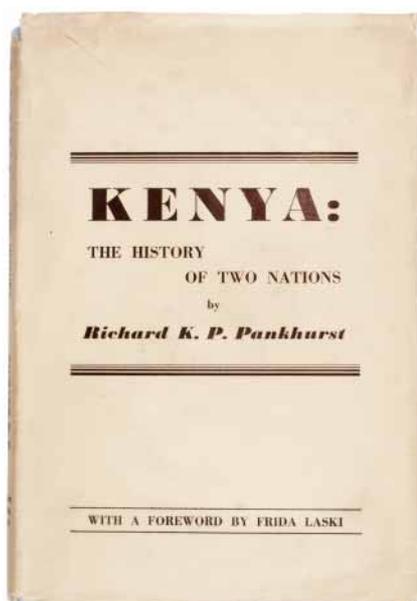
An extensive and impressive collection, celebrating the role of the alternative, underground and countercultural press in the flourishing period between 1966 and 1977. Essentially a catalogue produced in conjunction with an exhibition held in Urbino at Collegio Tridente in June 2014, this comprehensive collection covers everything from underground pornography, free love and anti-establishment anarchism, to anti-war protests, spiritual empowerment, the Black Panthers, and women's liberation.



13. MORRIS, Donald R. The Washing of the Spears. A History of the Rise of the Zulu Nation under Shaka and Its Fall in the Zulu War of 1879. London, Jonathan Cape,, [1972]. £58

8vo. Original half-cloth over boards, dust-wrappers; map endpapers; pp. 655; plates after photographs; a very good copy.

Later edition of a classic account of the Zulu Wars, and Black Resistance.

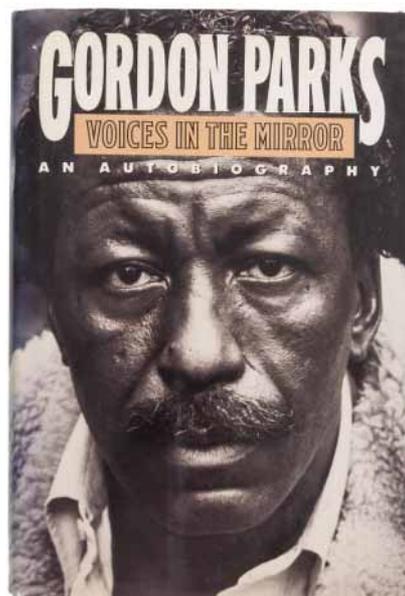


To Basil Taylor  
in the hope that this brief  
interpretation of events in East Africa  
may persuade him that injustice can be  
found outside the confines of East Germany  
Richard K. P. Pankhurst  
May 15, 1954

14. PANKHURST, Richard K.P. Kenya: The History of two Nations ... with a Foreword by Frida Laski. London, Independent Publishing Co., [1954]. £235

8vo. Original cloth with dust-wrapper, not price-clipped; pp. 122, sketch map; wrapper with a few repaired tears, otherwise near-fine.

Scarce first edition, signed presentation copy with long inscription, dated 1954 on front fly-leaf. The son of the former suffragist Sylvia Pankhurst and the Italian Anarchist and printer Silvio Corio here writes a book on Kenya, Indian influence, the Mau Mau movement and African nationalism in East Africa. The presentation inscription is to Basil Taylor, probably the broadcaster and RCA director. 'In the hope that this brief interpretation of events in East Africa may persuade him that injustice can be found outside the confines of East Germany'.



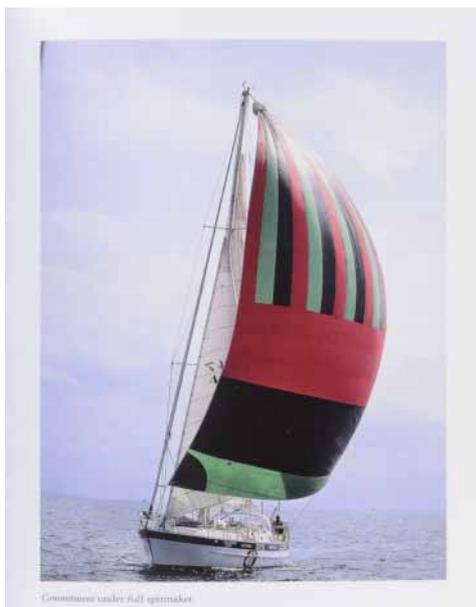
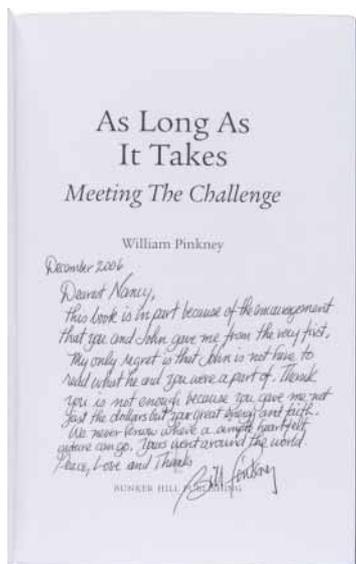
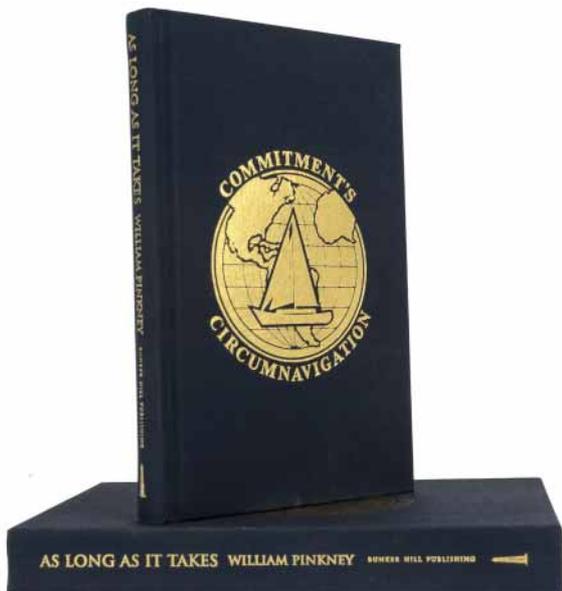
VOICES IN THE MIRROR  
To Michael  
Good Wishes  
Gordon Parks

15. PARKS, Gordon. Voices in the Mirror. An Autobiography. New York. Doubleday. 1990. £100

8vo., original cloth with dust wrapper. A very good copy. First edition inscribed by the author "To Michael Good Wishes Gordon Parks"

Gordon Parks (November 30, 1912 - March 7, 2006) was an African-American photographer, musician, writer and film director, who became prominent in U.S. documentary photojournalism in the 1940s through 1970s - particularly in issues of civil rights, poverty and African-Americans - and in glamour photography.

As the first famous pioneer among black filmmakers, he was the first African American to produce and direct major motion pictures - developing films relating the experience of slaves and struggling black Americans, and creating the "blaxploitation" genre. He is best remembered for his iconic photos of poor Americans during the 1940s (taken for a federal government project), for his photographic essays for Life magazine, and as the director of the 1971 film *Shaft*. Parks also was an author, poet and composer.



16. PINKNEY, William. *As Long as it Takes*. [Piermont, New Hampshire], Bunker Hill Publishing, [2006]. £498

8vo. Original blue cloth stamped in gilt with slipcase, spine lettered in gilt; pp. 168, plates after photographs; pp. III/2 supplied as separate sheet on blue paper, as usual, due to printing or binding error; as new.

First limited edition, number 25 of 100 copies produced, signed twice by the author, once on a limitation note on a label on front fly-leaf and once more on the title-page with a long and heartfelt presentation note.

‘William “Bill” Pinkney is the first African American, and only the fourth person in the world to circumnavigate the globe alone by boat. Pinkney was born on September 15, 1935, in Chicago, Illinois to Marion Henderson Pinkney and William Pinkney, Sr. He attended Tilden Tech High School in Chicago, and after graduating received training as an x-ray technician.

After high school Pinkney had a variety of different jobs. He was on active duty in the Navy from 1956 to 1960 as a hospital corpsman. He decided to move to Puerto Rico after leaving the Navy and while there held a series of jobs including one as a professional limbo dancer. Eventually he hired on to work as a crewman on sailboats. Pinkney then moved to New York, trained to become a make-up artist and eventually landed a job at Revlon, the cosmetics company. From there he moved back to his hometown of Chicago to work for the Johnson and Johnson Company. By 1980, however, Pinkney was an employee of the city of Chicago.

Despite the variety of jobs, Pinkney continued his interest in sailing that he had developed in Puerto Rico and became particularly adept at sailing alone. At the age of 50, after thinking about the legacy he would leave behind for his two grandchildren, April and Brian Walton, Pinkney decided he would attempt to sail around the world alone to encourage them to think and do the impossible. After receiving funding from the industrialist Armand Hammer and a Boston law firm, Aldrich, Eastman, and Waltch, he began to plan his solo voyage.

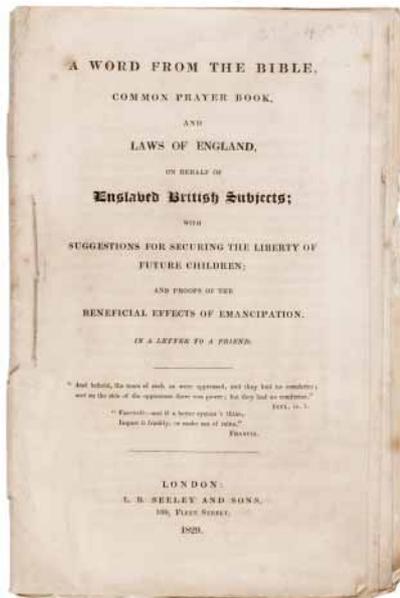
At the age of 55 Pinkney began his odyssey on August 5, 1990, setting sail from Boston Harbor. He sailed on a 47-foot boat called *The Commitment*, which had been specially rigged so one man could operate it. Out of all the possible routes, Pinkney chose the most difficult one, which would take him around the five capes. He made stops in Bermuda, Brazil, South Africa, Tasmania, and finally around Cape Horn (the most difficult part of the voyage). His voyage took him 22 months, including a six month delay in Australia due to weather, and covered 27,000 miles.

After successfully completing the voyage, Pinkney worked for a time as a motivational speaker. Then in 1999 he completed another journey following the infamous “Middle Passage” of 17th and 18th century slave ships backwards from Puerto Rico to Brazil and finally to Ghana and Senegal in West Africa. In 2000 Pinkney was asked to be the first captain of the replica of the Schooner *La Amistad* which was made famous in 1839 because of the slaves on board who were eventually freed by a U.S. Supreme Court decision.

Pinkney has received numerous awards, honorary degrees and recognitions including the 1992 Yachtsman of the Year Award from the Chicago Yacht Club. He continues to work as a motivational speaker for public schools and corporations’ (blackpast.org, online).

*Provenance:* Loosely inserted a calligraphic letter with envelope by William Pinkney on his blind-stamped stationery to Nancy Mack announcing further sailing trips to the west coast of Africa, dated November 2007. Prospectus for the trade edition of the book loosely inserted.

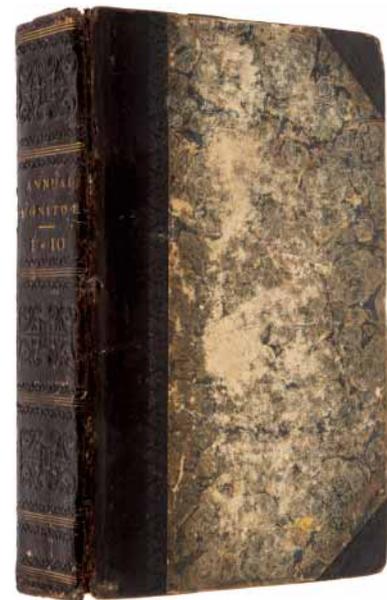
*This very limited edition was not destined for the trade. It was presented to family, friends, the many supporters who enabled the circumnavigation and a few journalists. Even the trade edition has become very uncommon.*



17. POWNALL, Henry. *A Word from the Bible, Common Prayer Book, and Laws of England on behalf of Enslaved British Subjects, with Suggestions for Securing the Liberty of Future Children, and Proofs of the beneficial Effects of Emancipation, in a Letter to a Friend.* London, L. B. Seeley and Sons, 1829. £598

8vo. Stitched, uncut and unopened as issued; pp. 57, beginning and end minimally spotted, marginal repair to final leaf; a very good copy of a great rarity.

Henry Pownall was born in 1792 off Hammersmith Road in Fulham, West London. As a magistrate, landed proprietor and philanthropist he financially supported Wilberforce. His obituary in *The Times* of 9 April 1880 reported that 'he was early connected with the religious and philanthropic movements of the first half of the present century as a member of the committees of the Bible Society, the Church Missionary Society, the Mendicity Society and the Anti-Slavery Society; and it may be mentioned particularly that he was the mover of the resolution passed at a public meeting at Freemasons Hall in July 1829, under the presidency of William Wilberforce, demanding that a day should be fixed after which all children born of slaves in the British Dominions should be free'.



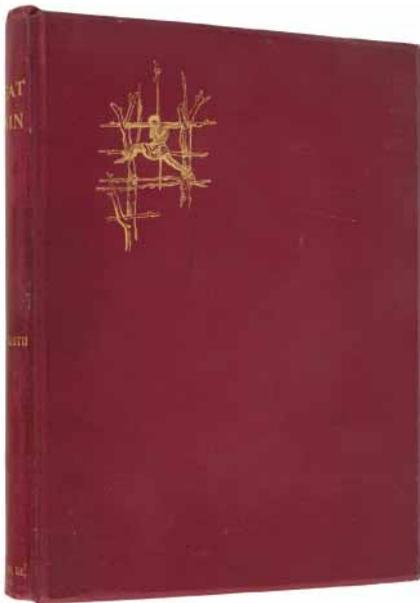
18. QUAKERS - *The Annual Monitor, or New Letter-Case and Memorandum Book.* York, William Alexander, 1813-1822. £998

The first ten volumes in one, 12mo. Contemporary, probably Northern English half calf over marbled boards, spine ornamented in blind, ruled and lettered in gilt 'Annual Monitor 1-10'; lower hinge restored in the early 20th century and endpapers renewed, covers a little rubbed, extremities with light wear; still a decorative and fitting binding; a few volumes with even light toning, otherwise clean and fresh.

A consecutive run of the very rare in-house publication by the Society of Friends with many references to the ongoing abolitionist campaigns and moving texts about the sin of slavery. The middle pages of each annual which would have included the diary, space for memorandums and cash book to be filled in by hand have been removed by the Quaker who had this volume bound up.

This Quaker annual was started by William Alexander in 1813 and ran up to 1919. The English Quaker, businessman, educator, bookseller, publisher and author settled in 1808 in York, when Sotherans Bookshop was still there. In the first volume he writes: 'The holding of bondage of our fellow men, is this year a prominent feature; for though the slave-trade is abolished by law in this country and those of America; yet, as slavery still exists, by legal authority, in British Dominions, it may be interesting to many readers, to have a few anecdotes of some of the individuals who paved the way for its exterminations in the religious Society of Friends; amongst whom there is no longer a fellow-creature held in that unchristian bondage' (p. 3 f.). For example on pp. 129 f. in volume five is a report by a Quaker visiting Virginia about the bestial attitude of a slave owner who threatens a sick and dying slave with severe flogging as punishment for having brought the sickness upon himself. Another rather interesting long report (volumes 7 and 8) is on a visit of the Seneca Indians of Lake Erie to York. There had been a Quaker mission to this tribe from 1798 onwards.

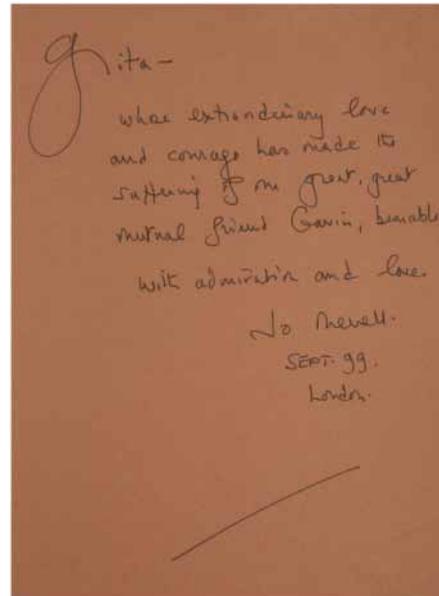
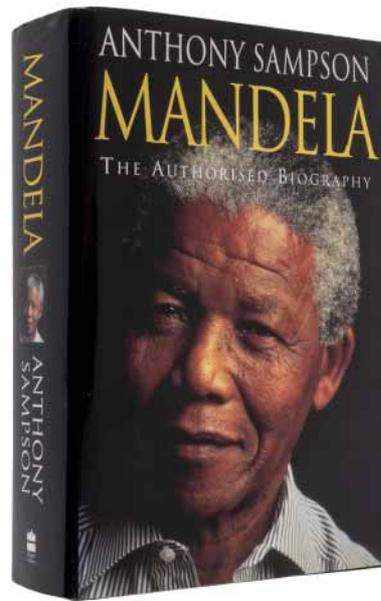
VICTIMS OF MURDER, RAPE AND AND THEFT SHAMED  
AND BLAMED



19. ROTH, H. Ling Great Benin. Its Customs, Art and Horrors. Halifax, F. King & Sons, 1903. £798

4to. Original red cloth with bevelled edges, lettered and illustrated in gilt; pp. xii, 234, xxxii, highly illustrated in the text after plates and photographs; minimal marking to cloth, occasional very light toning; a very good copy.

~b~First edition, one of only 320 copies printed, 'and no other or cheaper edition will be issued'~i~ (half-title). Henry Ling Roth (1855-1925) was an anthropologist, author and museum-curator. This book is based on records of his brother F. Norman who was medical officer to the 'Benin punitive expedition', a euphemism for barbaric butchery, the destruction of a kingdom, facilitated and 'justified' by Machiavellian machinations of the British.



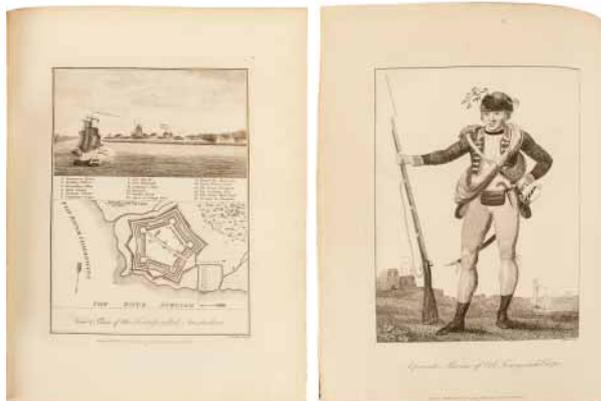
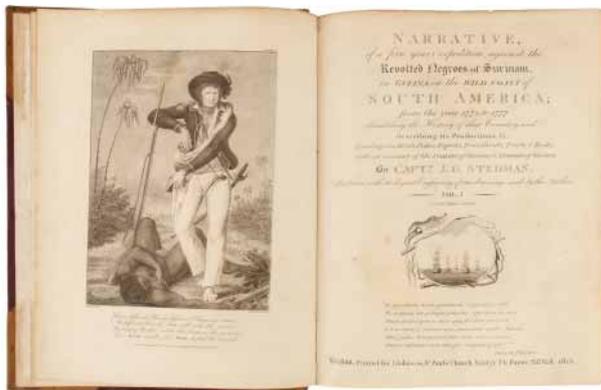
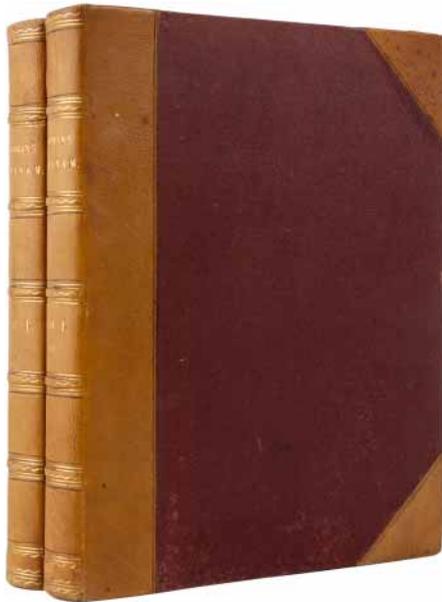
20. SAMPSON, Anthony. Mandela. The Authorised Biography. [London], Harper Collins, 1999. £98

8vo. Original boards and dust wrappers; pp. xxvi, 678, black and white photo plates; apart from light toning due to paper stock, as usual, fine; provenance: from the estate of Gritta Weil.

First edition, signed and inscribed by Jo Menell, who co-directed the 1996 official film biography of Nelson Mandela *Mandela: Son of Africa, Father of a Nation*. The inscription reads: 'Grita - Whose extraordinary love and courage has made the suffering of one great, great mutual friend Gavin, bearable. With admiration and love, Jo Menell. Sept. 99. London'.

Gritta Weil (1924-2009), a refugee from Germany, worked for *The Observer* from 1945 to 1984, and was a close friend of the travel writer and journalist for the same paper, Gavin Young (1928-2001), who is best remembered for his 1977 book *Return to the Marshes*, based on his life with the Marsh Arabs of Iraq. This was followed by an account of his travels in Mesopotamia in 1980.

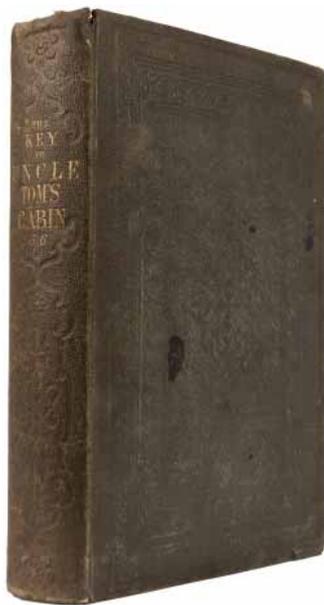
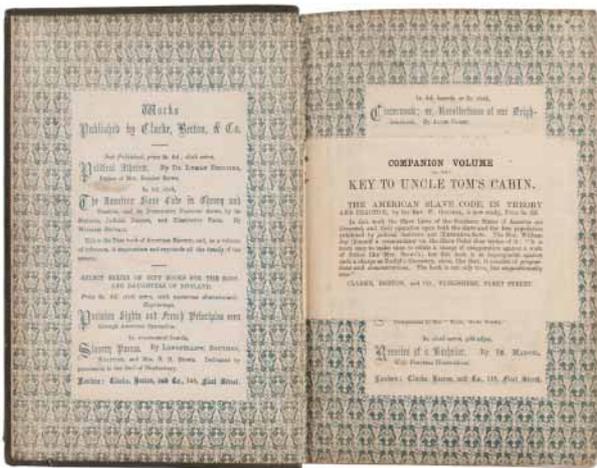
‘ONE OF THE MOST VIVID INDICTMENTS OF SLAVERY’  
(DNB) - PLATES BY WILLIAM BLAKE



21. **STEDMAN, John Gabriel.** Narrative of a Five Year's Expedition, Against the Revolted Negroes of Surinam, in Guiana, on the Wild Coast of South America; from the Year 1772, to 1777: Elucidating the History of that Country, and Describing its Productions, Viz. Quadrupeds, Birds, Fishes, Reptiles, Trees, Shrubs, Fruits, & Roots; With an Account of the Indians of Guiana, & Negroes of Guinea [edited by William Thomson]. London, Luke Hansard for J. Johnson, 1813. £2,450

Two volumes, 4to. Mid-19th-century half tan morocco over red cloth, spines gilt in compartments and lettered in 2, red-speckled edges; pp. I: xviii, 423, [5 (blank and index)]; II: iv, 419, [5 (index and directions to the binder)]; engraved titles, engraved frontispieces by Francesco

Bartolozzi and William Blake after Stedman, 75 engraved plates by Blake, Bartolozzi, et al. after Stedman, one aquatint and folding, 4 engraved maps by T. Conder after Stedman, 3 folding; slight rubbing and scuffing on extremities, minor discoloration on boards, slight cracking on one hinge, some light browning, spotting and offsetting, 1 plate with old repaired tear, some small marginal marks or tears, but nonetheless a good, tall set with large margins, retaining some deckles; *provenance*: Arthur Gilstrap Soames, Sheffield Park House (1854-1934, engraved armorial bookplates by C. Helard, dated 1899). Second edition, second issue. In 1772 Stedman volunteered for an expedition sent out by the States-General to subdue the revolution in Surinam (or Dutch Guiana): the result of his five years in Surinam was the *Narrative*, “one of the most detailed descriptions ever written of an eighteenth-century slave plantation society [...] His intimate dealings with members of all social classes, from the governor and the wealthiest planters to the most oppressed slaves and maroon rebels, gave him unique opportunities to describe the full panorama of colonial life — the mistreatment of slaves by sadistic masters, the courage of the rebels in battle, the daily lives of Indian and African slaves, and exotic flora and fauna” (ODNB). Whilst in Surinam, Stedman married Joanna (1757-1782), “a beautiful fifteen-year-old mixed-race slave” (ODNB), with whom he had a son, Johnny. The work is illustrated with plates after drawings by Stedman, which include one of Joanna, who is described by the author thus: “Rather taller than middle size, she was possessed of the most elegant shape that nature can exhibit, moving her well-formed limbs with more than common gracefulness. Her face was full of native modesty, and the most distinguished sweetness; her eyes, as black as ebony, were large and full of expression, bespeaking the goodness of her heart” (I, p. 94). Sixteen of the plates were engraved by William Blake (whose skill so impressed Stedman, that the two men became close friends), and they ‘have long been recognized as among the best executed and most generally interesting of all his journeyman work’ (Keynes ...) Each of Blake’s arresting engravings successfully blends his own inner vision with Stedman’s. The often-reproduced slave tortures (pl. II, 35, 71) convey extraordinary power and pathos, the wonderfully humanoid monkeys and the skinning of the giant anaconda (pl. 18, 42, 19) sprightly humour, and his emblematic representation of Europe Supported by Africa & America (pl. 80) demure but unmistakable sensuality” (ODNB). The *Narrative* was first published in 1796, and a second, corrected edition was published in 1806, which was reissued in 1813, with the dates on the titles amended. Translations into French, German and Italian appeared soon after the first publication, and “the number of editions, abridgements, and versions which were published of this book shows the impact made at the time by Stedman’s unaffected *Narrative* of his experiences in Guiana” (Abbey *Travel* 719). Bentley, *Blake Books*, 499C; Sabin 91075; Wood p. 581, Essick, *William Blake’s Commercial Book Illustrations*, XXXIII p 71 - 75.

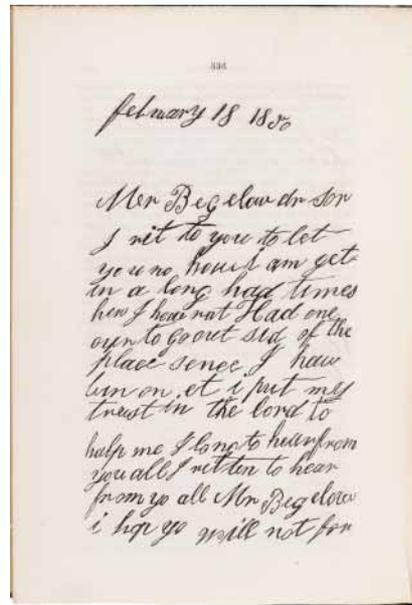


22. STOWE, Harriet Beecher. A Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin, Presenting the Original Facts and Documents Upon Which the Story is Founded, Together with Corroborative Statements Verifying the Truth of the Work. London, Clarke, Beeton, and Co., ... and Thomas Bosworth, [1853]. £198

8vo. Original blind-stamped sage green cloth, spine lettered and priced in gilt, ornamental advertisement endpapers, printed in turquoise; pp. viii, 504, lithographic facsimile on pages 336 to 338; binding a little worn and spotted, internally a few spots here and there; still a better than usually encountered copy.

Second UK edition. This is the companion volume to one of the most influential pieces of 19th-century fiction, giving the evidence that the conditions of slavery are as bad as described in the novel. 'Stowe wrote this book to defend her novel against one of the most wide-spread complaints that pro-slavery critics lodged against it — that as an account of slavery *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was wholly false, or at least wildly exaggerated. Thus *The Key* is organized around that defensive project, taking up her major characters one at a time, for example, to cite real life equivalents to them. At the same time, defending her novel led her to mount a more aggressive attack on slavery in the South than the novel itself had. In the novel she works hard to be sympathetic to white southerners as well as black slaves; here, her prose seems much

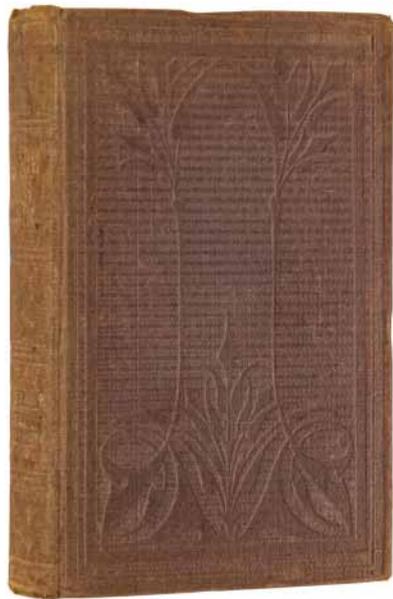
angrier, both morally and rhetorically more contemptuous. One explanation for this sharper tone could be the novel's reception in the South, where no one seems to have appreciated her attempt to be fair. Stowe was probably unprepared for the South's shrill rejection of the book' (<http://utc.iath.virginia.edu/uncletom/key/kyhp.htm>). - This is the issue without appendix, probably earlier. This copy has a printed advertisement slip for a *Companion Volume to the Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin* tipped in at the beginning. The recommended work is the Reverend Goodell's *The American Slave Code*.



23. STOWE, Harriet Beecher A Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin, Presenting the Original Facts and Documents Upon Which the Story is Founded, Together with Corroborative Statements Verifying the Truth of the Work. London, Clarke, Beeton, and Co., ... and Thomas Bosworth, [1853]. £298

8vo. Original blind-stamped sage green cloth, spine lettered and priced in gilt, ornamental advertisement endpapers, printed in turquoise; pp. viii, 508, lithographic facsimile on pages 336 to 338; a near-fine copy.

Second UK edition. This is the companion volume to one of the most influential pieces of 19th-century fiction, giving the evidence that the conditions of slavery are as bad as described in the novel. 'Stowe wrote this book to defend her novel against one of the most wide-spread complaints that pro-slavery critics lodged against it — that as an account of slavery *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was wholly false, or at least wildly exaggerated. Thus *The Key* is organized around that defensive project, taking up her major characters one at a time, for example, to cite real life equivalents to them. At the same time, defending her novel led her to mount a more aggressive attack on slavery in the South than the novel itself had. In the novel she works hard to be sympathetic to white southerners as well as black slaves; here, her prose seems much angrier, both morally and rhetorically more contemptuous. One explanation for this sharper tone could be the novel's reception in the South, where no one seems to have appreciated her attempt to be fair. Stowe was probably unprepared for the South's shrill rejection of the book' (<http://utc.iath.virginia.edu/uncletom/key/kyhp.htm>). - This is the issue with an appendix on pp. 505-508, set in rather small type, documenting the US government's bias and falsification of statistics concerning slavery.

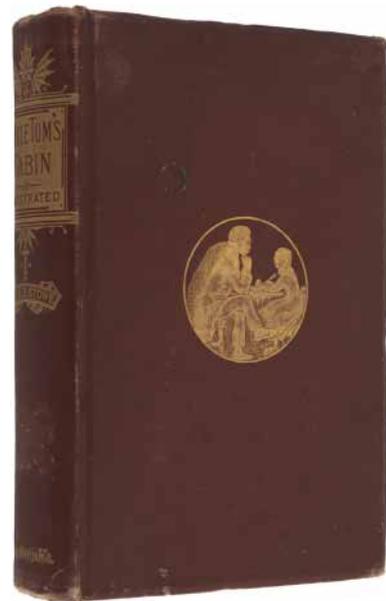


24. STOWE, Harriet Beecher. Uncle Tom's Cabin. A Tale among the Lowly ... With a Preface by the Right Hon. The Earl of Carlisle. London, George Routledge, 1853. £225

8vo. Original publisher's cloth, spine lettered in gilt, ornamented in blind; pp. xvi, [9]-480, with lithographic frontispiece and additional pictorial lithographic title; cloth a bit rubbed and faded, text with spotting due to paper stock; a good copy.

Early English edition, rare in the publisher's binding. The Earl of Carlisle corresponded with Harriet Beecher Stowe and contributed to the cause of abolitionism in the US and the education of former slaves.

See PMM 332 (Uncle Tom's Cabin exploded like a bombshell').

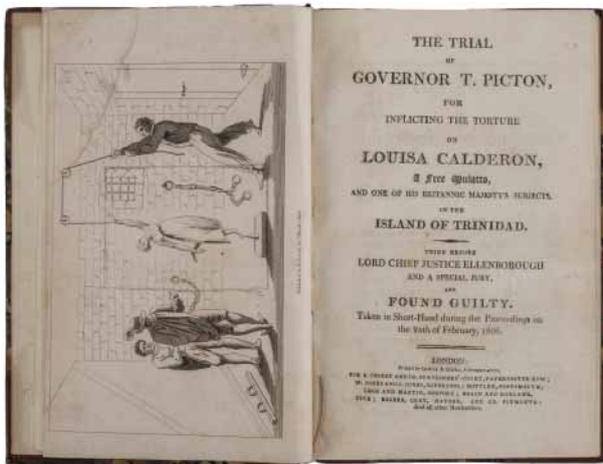
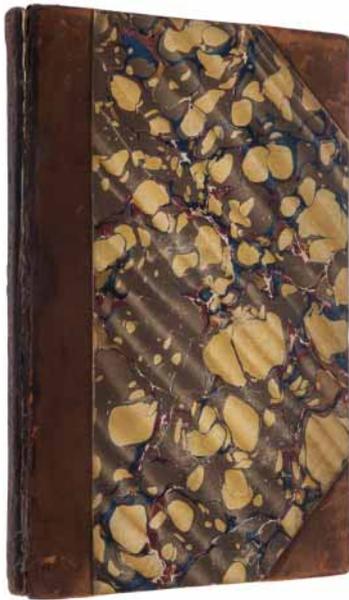


25. STOWE, Harriet Beecher. Uncle Tom's Cabin. A Tale among the Lowly ... New Edition, with Illustrations, and a Bibliography of the Work by George Bullen ... Keeper of the Department of Printed Books, British Museum. Together with an introductory Account of the Work. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1881. £235

8vo. Original publisher's cloth with bevelled edges, spine lettered in gilt, gilt-stamped vignette on front cover; pp. lxvii, 527, with lithographic frontispiece (lithographic half-title on verso), text highly illustrated; cloth only lightly marked, light even toning internally, light spotting to inner margins of preliminaries, a very good copy with contemporary ownership inscription to front fly leaf.

An early illustrated edition with the bibliography which contains translations and reviews of the work as well, rare in the publisher's binding.

See PMM 332 (Uncle Tom's Cabin exploded like a bombshell').



26. **TRINIDAD** - The Trial of Governor T. Picton, for Inflicting the Torture on Louisa Calderon, A Free Mulatto, and one of His Britannic Majesty's Subjects, in the Island of Trinidad. Tried before Lord Chief Justice Ellenborough and a Special Jury, and Found Guilty. Taken in Short-Hand during the Proceedings on the 24th of February, 1806. *London, Dewick & Clarke for B. Crosby & Co., 1806.* £2,995

8vo. Slightly later restored half-calf over marbled boards, spine lettered vertically in gilt; pp. 126, [2, publisher's catalogue], engraved frontispiece; spine with flawed head and tail, but now secured, frontispiece with light trace of humidity, first and last page a little toned, complete with half-title and catalogue at the end, very good.

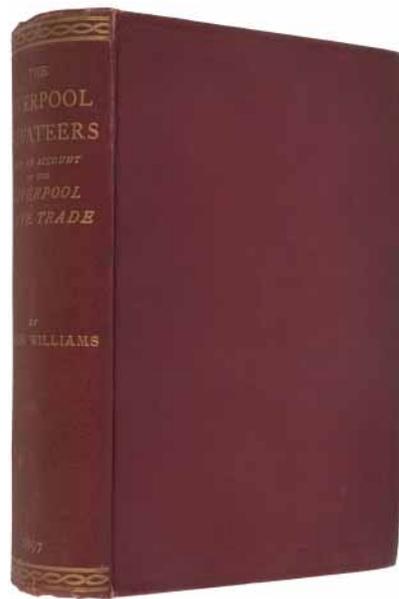
This is the very rare first edition of the most authoritative eyewitness account of one of the great media sensations of the British Empire during the early 19th Century. On February 24, 1806, Brigadier-General Thomas Picton, the former Governor of Trinidad, was placed on trial for ordering the torture of Luisa Calderón, a free mulatto woman (Picton is today perhaps most famous for having been the Duke of Wellington's 'righthand man', killed in action at the Battle of Waterloo). Tried before Lord Chief Justice Ellenborough, after a single day of arguments and only five minutes of jury deliberations, Picton was found guilty.

The former Governor of Trinidad, who was accused of illegally ordering the torture in 1801 of Luisa Calderón, a thirteen-year-old free mulatto woman suspected of being an accessory to burglary. The method of torture used in an attempt to extract a confession from Calderón was known as "picketing" (the British public would come to call it "Picton-ing") and is here illustrated in a striking full-page engraving, an image which takes its place among the more disturbing visualizations of torture from the colonial Americas. Even before the incident involving Luisa Calderón, numerous reports of Picton's bad governance and maltreatment of the slave population in Trinidad had reached London. Picton immediately appealed his conviction for the torture of Luisa Calderón and at a retrial in 1808 the conviction was overturned based on a new examination of Spanish legal precedents, but the jury asked for the court to consider that torture of a free person was so repugnant to the laws of England that Picton must have known he could not permit it, no matter what Spanish law authorized.

*Provenance:* Half-title inscribed in a contemporary hand in ink 'I was present during the whole of this Trial J: F. M. D.'. Ink inscription in a different hand above '[illegible name] bought in Southampton June 7th, 1806'. Ink note in a contemporary hand at the end of the text 'A new trial was granted & held [?], and Picton was thereon acquitted'.

~i~Goldsmiths II, 19253; Sabin; 62684; COPAC records copies at Universities of Birmingham and Southampton, at UCL, and University of Edinburgh; the British Library seems to have it only in digital form; the last sales or auction record we can trace is from Sotheby's in 1972.

#### WRITTEN OUT OF HISTORY

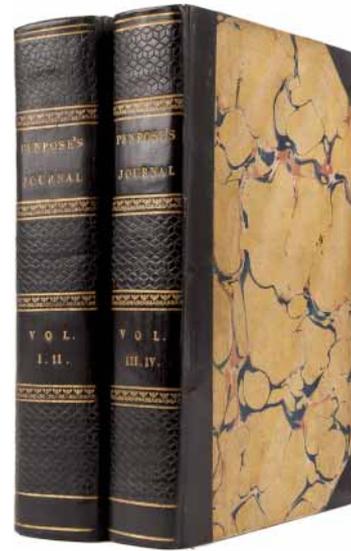


27. **WILLIAMS, Gomer.** History of the Liverpool Privateers and Letters of Marque with an Account of the Liverpool Slave Trade. *London, William Heinemann, 1897.* £498

8vo. Original dark red cloth, spine lettered in gilt; pp. xv, 718, [2]; four folding facsimiles, only light wear to binding; a little offsetting from endpapers, one gathering unevenly opened; otherwise a very good copy of an uncommon work.

Scarce first edition of the first full-length book to tap into the history of the 'national sin' (p. v). - We could not find any information about the author, despite - or maybe because - of him having written this substantial book.

'History of the Liverpool Privateers... is one of the most detailed 19th century accounts of the slave trade. It gathers original source materials which feature comparative tables of figures and profits connected with the trade, newspaper articles and advertisements, and facsimiles of manuscript documents, including ship logs. Also included are descriptive accounts of the treacherous journeys at sea, the brutal treatment received by African peoples, and the Abolition campaign. Although the book was written retrospectively in 1897, after Britain ceased involvement in the slave trade, it is still regarded as a reputable source. [...] On page 680 a comparative table shows the numbers of ships that left Liverpool, London and Bristol for Africa, to board African people and transport them to America as slaves. This movement is part of the 'trade triangle' in the transatlantic slave trade. The table, covering years 1795-1804, reveals that the port of Liverpool dominated the slave trade in the late 18th century. In 1798, for example, ships from Liverpool potentially boarded 53,051 Africans ("Slaves Allowed"), compared with figures of 2,650 and 1,433 from London and Bristol, respectively. On page 477, Williams presents a broader view of England's involvement in the slave trade. Here, he makes reference to an estimate that 20,000 Africans were held as slaves by London families or businesses in the late 18th century. To put that figure into perspective, today 20,000 people constitute a regular population size for a British town. Williams also details some of the horrendous, brutalising treatment carried out by English slaveholders (British Library, online, apparently not being able to provide us with any biographical information about Gomer Williams either). 'This book, first published in 1897, examines two important factors in the growth of Liverpool as a major port: privateering and the slave trade. It incorporates a large amount of primary source material, including extracts from letters and newspaper reports. Privateering developed as Britain became a global maritime power through merchant shipping and exploration, privateers being ships and individuals authorised by the government through Letters of Marque to attack and capture foreign ships for profit. Williams recounts the exploits of several notorious privateers sailing from Liverpool, and describes how the industry functioned and flourished during the French revolution, the Seven Years' War and the American wars. He provides much practical detail, including how best to capture ships while causing them minimal damage. The second part of his book is still regarded as a classic history of the Liverpool slave trade, and clearly reveals the author's anti-imperialist views' (Cambridge Library Collection - Naval and Military History, online).



28. [WILLIAMS, William]. *The Journal of Llewelin Penrose, A Seaman*. London: Murray, 1815. £998

Four volumes in two, 12mo. Contemporary black half-morocco over marbled boards, spine lettered in gilt, ornamented in blind; a very good copy, bound without half-titles, as usual.

Scarce first edition of the first American novel, written by the teacher and friend of Benjamin West (the book's dedicatee), a book highly admired by Byron.

'Long neglected as the first American novel, Mr. Penrose narrates the adventures of a British youth who flees an unhappy home life to seek his fortune on the high seas. Having learned the sailor's trade, Penrose survives a series of nautical mishaps, only to be cast adrift on the Mosquito Coast. When rescue finally comes, Penrose refuses to abandon the new home he has made among the Indians. Equal parts travel narrative, adventure tale, and natural history, the novel reflects on some of the most pressing moral and social issues of its time: imperialism, racial equality, religious freedom, and the nature of ethical, responsible government. Mr. Penrose contains the first unequivocal critique of slavery in a transatlantic novel and the most realistic portrayals of Native Americans in early American fiction. In the afterword to this paperback edition, Sarah Wadsworth imparts new research on the author and his career, shedding light on the novel's subjects and timely themes, and situating Mr. Penrose at the forefront of the American literary canon' (Introduction to a Indiana University Press edition, online).

'This is the account of the privateer William Williams's adventures after being marooned upon the Miskito Coast. It is the first story of a message in a bottle, of buried treasure, the first novel written in America, and incredibly anti-slavery, at a time when America's first three presidents owned slaves. The descriptions of flora and fauna are unparalleled, and some of Williams' stories of mammoth bones and inscribed basalt pillars have only been discovered to be factual in the last two decades' (Cambria Publishing advertisement for the e-book edition). Not too much is known about the author. Bristol-born Williams settled in Philadelphia after seafaring in 1747. There he ran an art studio, taught young Benjamin West painting, was instrumental in building America's first theatre, and was associated with Benjamin Franklin. After travelling in the Caribbean he returned to England in 1776. He died in the Merchants' and Sailors' Almshouse in Bristol in 1791.

*Sabin 60801.*

