

The Near & Middle East

September 2021



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Cover photograph: *item 11, DEROUNIAN.*
Above: *item 10, [BRYCE].*

THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

'FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY'

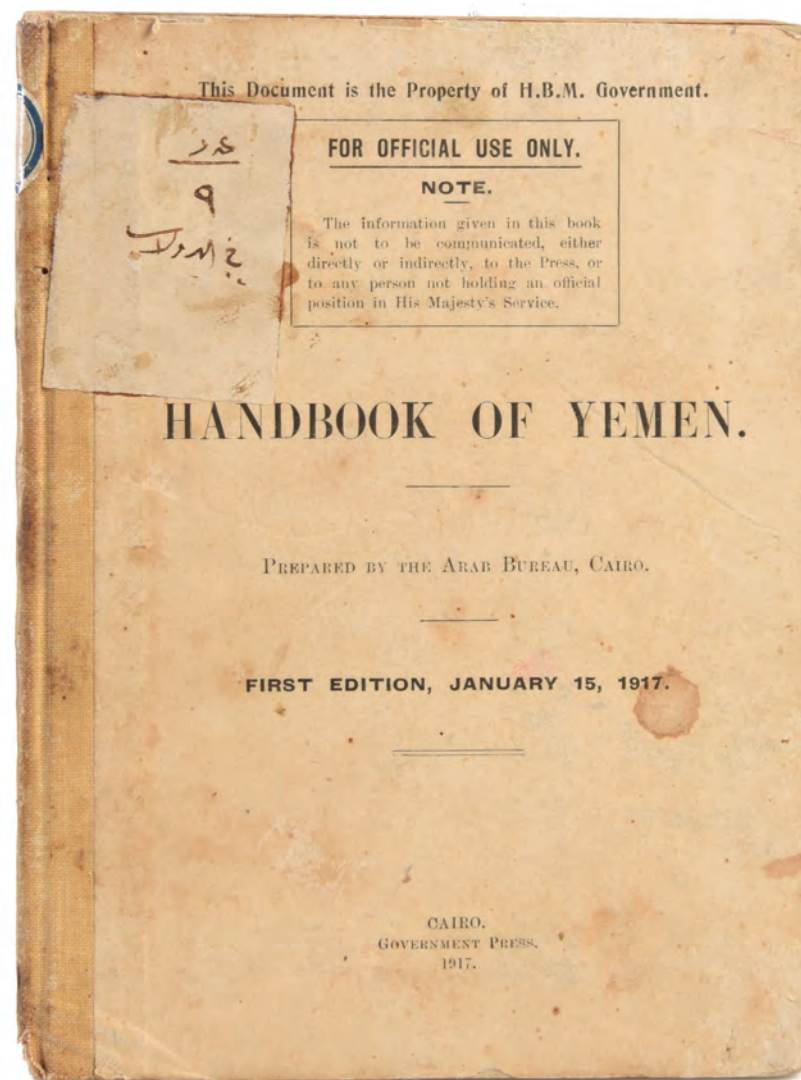
I [ARAB BUREAU]. CORNWALLIS (Major K.). HOGARTH (Lieut-Comdr. D. G. RNVR). Handbook of Yemen.

First edition. **One of 200 copies.** Folding map. Small 8vo. Original cream printed boards, yellow linen spine, rounded corners; boards dusty and finger-stained, a few small rust stains to spine, some light defunct worming to boards and opening pages. A good copy of a fragile work. Stamp of the Residency Office Aden (Feb. 1919) to title-page and reference labels to spine and front cover. pp. [i]-vi, [1]-161, [4], 162-167, [1]blank pp. Cairo, Government Press, January 15, 1917, [but printed 1916]. **RESERVED**

A rare official British handbook on Yemen of which only 200 copies were published. Excellently compiled by Cornwallis and Hogarth, two of the most important figures in the Middle Eastern Theatre of WWI, it draws on other official publications, original intelligence and “native information” (p.3). The outline map is very accurate for the time, borrowing from “a manuscript staff map, captured from a Turkish officer, made prisoner in Hejaz.” (p.3).

This copy has fascinating provenance as it was part of the library at the British Residency Office in Aden, with a stamp dated 11 Feb. 1919 (most likely recording its accession). The interior shows signs of use by official hands, with numerous underlinings and several short manuscript annotations (in English and Arabic) to Chapter IX, ‘Tribal Notes’. Most of the annotations update transliterations and, in some cases, the information and post-publication history. A sombre annotation to page 63 notes that Sheikh Salih Ibn Muslih (of the Himran, a section of the Hashid tribe) was “killed in Loheiya [Al Luhayyah]”.

As already stated, the handbook is very hard to come by: Library Hub locates just five holdings (Durham, Edinburgh, Oxford, SOAS and the Imperial War Museum). OCLC adds just one more, the only to be found outside the UK, at the US Army Military Institute.



ITEM 2

Translation of the Brevet

Royal Office.
No 495.

Hussien
Aliy.

As Major Batten has proved to be among the
loyals to our Hashimite throne by his renowned
services & his generous efforts, our ~~self~~ has been
pleased to confer upon him the Insignia of the honourable
of St. Nicholas of the third class in compensation
of his services & appreciation to his loyalty.
It is the Almighty alone that grants the
rewards.

21. Shaban 1339.

عبدالله
بن الحسين
ملك
العمان

الحسين
بن علي
ملك
العمان
شعبان
١٣٣٩

لديكم فلما كان في الحرب اتمتمتمت وادخلتم في جوارنا لانها نجي بما
ظهر على يد من اخدمتم المشورة والتمسح بالبرورة فقد صدر من
لر اوتنا الاماوية بمخوض م النهضة لبعال السان من البرورة لماناة
كافاه على عمد وتقدير للاخلاق والديجبري (الشيخ خيرة احمد في ٢١ شعبان ١٣٣٩

Al Qibla 481 55/21

يوم الخميس ٢٧ شعبان سنة ١٣٣٩

توجيهات

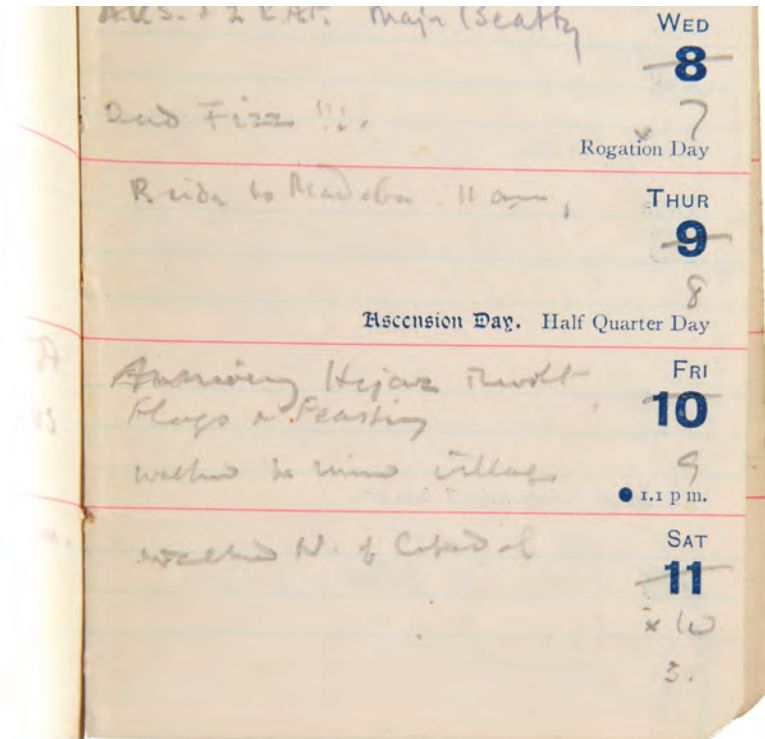
وجه ورسم النهضة العلي الشان من الدرجة
الفاشة الى الميجر بان نائب المعتد البريطاني
بجدة

With a manuscript brevet from the Sharif of Mecca

2 BATTEN (W.D.G.). Small archive of letters, documents and ephemera from Batten's political career in the Middle East, including his time as Acting British Agent, Jeddah.

[*Archive contents:*] **BATTEN (Major W.D.G.).** Three printed diaries with short manuscript entries recording appointments and events. 1918: disbound, a few pages loose, approx. 60pp., various places, incl. Haifa, Damascus and Cairo. 1920: black roan, approx. 70pp., various places, incl. Haifa, Yanbu and Jeddah. 1922: disbound, approx. 60pp., various places incl. Jerusalem, Amman, London and Mumbai. [*With:*] **VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS**, incl. **HERBERT (Samuel)**, **PHILBY (H. St John)** and **YAHYA (Sadiq Bey)**. **Nine letters (mostly ALS and TLS) and four telegrams, all addressed to Batten.** Folio and 8vo. Overall 15pp. Various places, incl. London, Yanbu and Jeddah, 1913-1928. [*And:*] **AL-HASHIMI (Hussein bin Ali)**. **Brevet awarding the Order of Al Nahda (Third Class) to Batten.** Arabic manuscript in ink on polished paper, with a manuscript English translation and a clipping from *Al-Qibla* gazette (announcing the Order). 1(brevet); 1(translation)pp. [Mecca], Royal Office, 21 Sha'ban 1339 AH [30 April 1921 AD]. [*And:*] **HEJAZ RAILWAY. Hijaz Railway. Staff Duty Pass.** Printed card, folded once to make 4pp. (incl. covers). [Hejaz], 1922. [*And:*] **BATTEN (Major W.D.G.). Envelope containing six small sheets of manuscript quotes, Arabic transliteration and Arabic calligraphy.** N.p., n.d., but [Cairo or Hejaz], [c.1920-21]. [*Plus:*] **Ephemera from Batten's post-Jeddah career.** Including a printed document (perhaps a certificate) in Hindi and a pictorial menu from a meal in Bou Saâda, Algeria, 1926. **SOLD**

A small but illuminating archive documenting Batten's work in the Middle East during and directly after the First World War. Batten, in his roles at the Arab Bureau, the Political Staff of the E.E.F. and as Acting British Agent at Jeddah, was one of many British officials tasked with managing (or in some cases mismanaging) the delicate balance of power in the region, as newly empowered Arab leaders



argued for differing visions of the future. The archive houses documents sent from several highly important figures, including Herbert Samuel and Hussein bin Ali Al-Hashimi, the Sharif of Mecca (1908-24) and King of the Hejaz (1916-24).

Batten started his career in British India, opting for the Indian Army instead of the Civil Service where his father (Sir John Kaye Batten) worked as a Judicial Commissioner. A letter from the War Office, dated January 1913, confirms his attachment to the 4th Battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps and advises him to prepare to embark for India. How he came to be at the Arab Bureau is not covered in the archive, but many Indian Army officers, especially those with Arabic, moved into such positions as the conflict in the Middle East intensified. Though the archive focuses on his post-war service, a 1918 appointment diary gives a sense of his wartime duties and experiences in Palestine and Syria: meetings with Sir Kinahan Cornwallis (Director of the Arab Bureau) in Damascus (11/02/18), an "attack by Bedu" (12/04/18), a visit to the Holy Sepulchre and celebrations for the "Anniversary of the Arab Revolt [/] Flags & Feasting" (09/05/18). Batten clearly

impressed and went onto join the Political Staff of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, as a Deputy Assistant Political Officer in Beirut and Assistant Political Officer in Homs and Acre.

The bulk of the archive documents his post-war role as Acting British Agent at Jeddah, which centred on maintaining stable relations with Hussein bin Ali Al-Hashimi. He fulfilled the role from August 1920 to July 1921, a period that witnessed the closure of the Arab Bureau (October 1920) and therefore a major shift in how the agency functioned. Whereas the agency had previously communicated Hejazi affairs to the Arab Bureau (which then contacted the High Commissioner in Cairo), it was instead ordered to contact the Foreign Office. This shift “adversely impacted Sherifian fortunes” (Paris, Timothy, *Britain, the Hashemites and Arab Rule*, London, 2003, p.141) as Hussein would no longer benefit from the consistent support of the Arab Bureau and a direct line to the High Commissioner.

Only one document from that period directly points to the pressure Batten was under: his ms. paraphrase of a telegram from Lord Curzon (dated 18/12/20), complimenting him on his handling of a “delicate situation” in which he successfully restrained an unnamed figure — most likely Hussein — from an unnamed but “ill-advised and premature action”. Batten’s 1920 appointment diary attests to the many days he spent with not only Hussein, but his sons, Ali, Abdullah and Faisal (“King of Syria & Palestine!”, 12/03/20). That he managed to uphold good relations is evidenced in **the archive’s most remarkable item: a manuscript brevet from Hussein, conferring the the Order of Al Nahda (Third Class) on Batten for his efforts to assist the Hashemites and maintain the independence of the Hejaz.** (Though the actual medal is not present, the Brevet is accompanied by an English translation, a clipping from *Al Qibla* announcing the Order, and a letter from the Agency informing Batten that news of the Order had been approved for publication in the *London Gazette*.)

The rest of the Jeddah documents (and the 1920 diary) show different aspects of his work, from meeting merchants to making preparations for the Hajj. Most are from other British officials, but two are from Arab correspondents: a telegram from Prince H. Habib Lotfallah (then an advisor to Faisal), and a (thus far untranslated) letter from Sadik bey Yahya, an Egyptian Officer remembered for his report on the Sharifian entry into Medina in January 1919 (cf. Kedourie, Elie, ‘The Surrender of Medina, January 1919’ in *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol.13, No.1, Jan. 1977, pp.124-143).

Following his spell in Jeddah, Batten’s services were in great demand, so much so that it appears he was offered household appointments with Faisal (by then King of Iraq) and Abdullah (by then Emir of Transjordan). A slightly bemused letter from Herbert Samuel, the High Commissioner for Palestine, asks Batten which offer came first and for his “preference in the matter” (31/12/21). Batten chose the position in Transjordan and the few remaining



items in the archive are from his time there. His 1922 appointment diary is the most informative, recording meetings and lunches with Abdullah, Saeed Pasha Khair (the Mayor of Amman), Ronald Storrs, Gertrude Bell and H. St John Philby. As with the other diaries the entries are generally very minimal (rarely stretching beyond a few words) with the exception of a handful of more personal comments. **The most eye-catching appears to reference a conversation about the errors of the Arab Revolt, citing “Auda [Abu Tayi] & TEL’s exaggerated promises” (23/01/22).**

Viewed as a whole, the archive, though fragmentary, provides a valuable insight into the career of one of the manifold forgotten names of the Middle Eastern theatre and its aftermath. **It also adds to the important story of the ebb and flow of Hashemite power in the Middle East and the twilight of their centuries-old rule over Mecca.** Such material, especially that relating to the modern political history of the Hejaz, is rarely encountered outside of institutional collections and archives.

For more information, please contact sam@maggs.com

HIJAZ RAILWAY	
STAFF DUTY PASS	
1ST CLASS	1922
Name <i>Major Batten</i>	اسم <i>ميجر باتن</i>
Appointment <i>Act to C.B.R.</i>	الرتبة <i>وكيل افعند الاصل</i>
Department	الاداره
From <i>all</i> Stations	من محطة <i>جميع المحطات</i>
To <i>all</i> Stations	الى محطة <i>جميع المحطات</i>
Date from <i>23-4-22</i> To <i>31-12-22</i>	اعتباراً من <i>23/4/22</i> لغاية <i>31/12/22</i>
<i>R.B. Batten</i> DIVL. SUPT. Manager	يعمل بهذه التذكرة عندما يكون حاملها اثناء وظيفته وهي غير قابلة للتحويل ويجب ابرازها عند الطالب <i>قطار الحجاز</i>
This pass is only available when holder is actually travelling on duty, is not transferable and must be shown on demand. <i>Available for H.R. trains only</i>	

“... one of the most extraordinary narratives in the literature of travel” (Hogarth)

3 DOUGHTY (Charles M.). Travels in Arabia Deserta.

First edition. 2 volumes. Large coloured, linen-backed, folding map (in rear pocket) & 8 plates (including 1 heliograph), some folding, with illustrations in the text. 8vo. Original green cloth with gilt vignettes on upper boards, the joints very slightly strained, but no wear or soiling to the binding, overall near fine. Housed in a fine modern folding box. xx, 623; xiv, 690pp. Cambridge, at the University Press, 1888. **£7,500**

A fine copy of this seminal work. Doughty describes just under two years of exploration in Western and Central Arabia (now Saudi Arabia), providing brilliant and unfading descriptions of Mada'in Saleh, Tayma, Ha'il, Kheybar, Unaizah and Taif.

It is difficult to overstate the importance of Doughty's effort. To grasp the full meaning of his travels one would have to go beyond the praise of Western admirers — William Morris and T.S. Eliot both lauded *Arabia Deserta* — to T.E. Lawrence hearing of Doughty from Arabs during WWI: “...I found that he had become history in the desert. ... Doughty's visit was to their fathers or grandfathers, and yet they have all learned of him.” (Lawrence's introduction to the 2nd edition).

Having been rejected by the Navy on medical grounds, Charles Montagu Doughty (1843-1926) pursued an academic career at Cambridge, before travelling extensively throughout Europe and the Mediterranean. Whilst exploring the ruins at Petra in 1875, he learned of similar archaeological sites at Mada'in Saleh, and resolving to reach these he approached both the Turkish authorities and the Royal Geographical Society. Neither would give their permission or support, so Doughty, taking matters into his own hands, spent a year in Damascus in the garb of an Arab Christian learning Arabic before joining the Syrian pilgrim caravan, which led him to the remarkable Nabatean tombs.

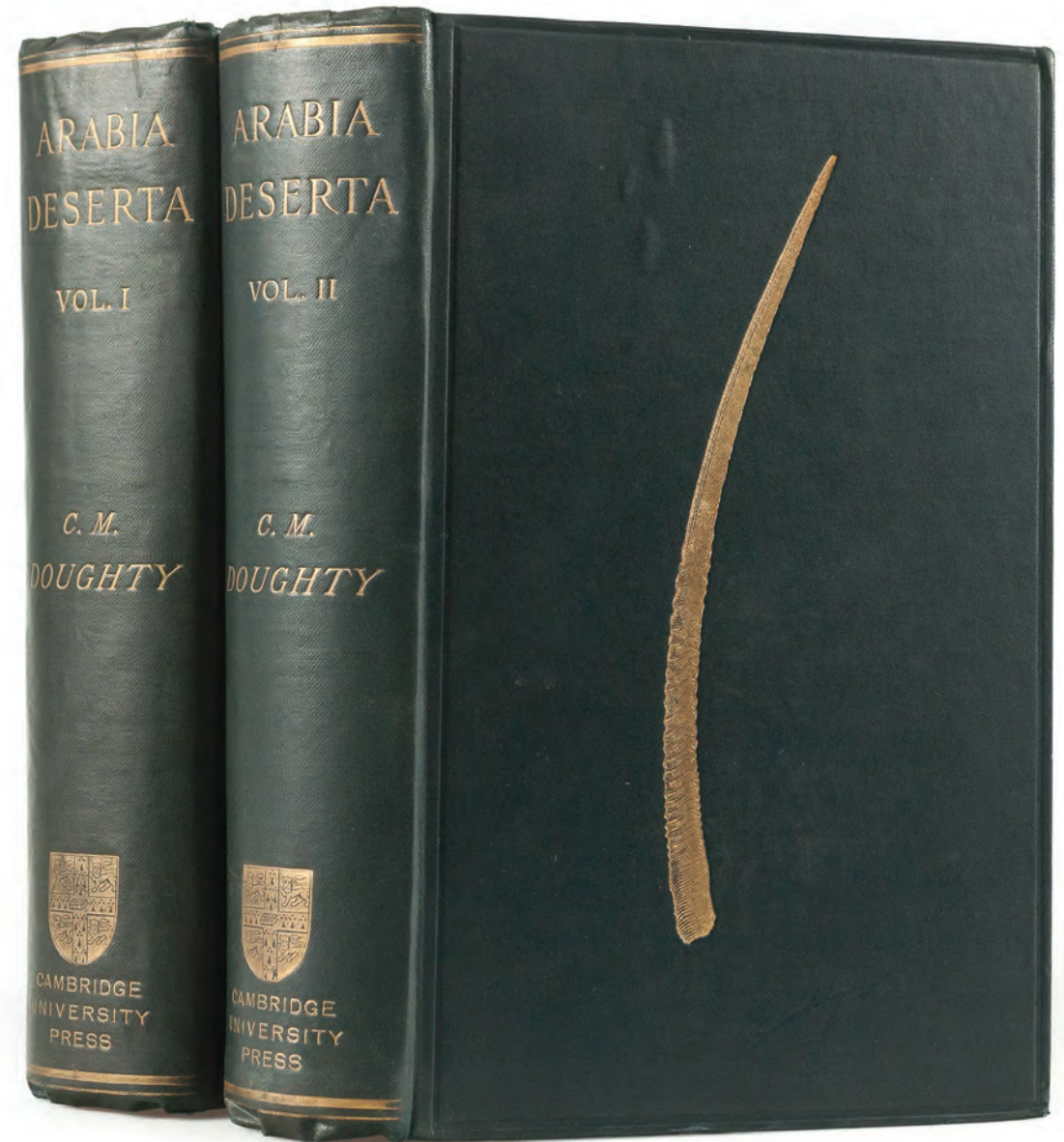
Instead of curtailing his travels there, he set out on an epic journey throughout North, Western and Central Arabia, relying on the hospitality of the Arab people (both settled and nomadic) he met along his wandering route. Everything he gleaned from those people and their terrain went into *Arabia Deserta* — **topographical and anthropological information of such accuracy that “British intelligence mined it for information during the First and Second World wars” (ODNB).**

Despite his remarkable achievement, rejection by the armed forces was soon accompanied by that of the publishing world. *Arabia Deserta* was overlooked by four different houses before being published in 1888 some ten years after Doughty’s return to England. This work however went largely unnoticed by the general public until the abridged edition of 1908, and more importantly the reissue of the full text with T.E. Lawrence’s introduction in 1921.

D.G. Hogarth, who wrote a biography of Doughty, comments at length on the successes of *Arabia Deserta*: “No one has looked so narrowly at the Arab and the life of Arabia as Doughty, and no one has painted them in literature with a touch so sensitive and sure. And not only Bedawin life of whose hardships he suffered to the last wandering as one poorer than the poorest, but also the life of the oasis towns of the Nejd... One can do Doughty’s pages no justice by quotation... His book belongs to that rare and supreme class in which the author speaks not for himself, but for all who might find themselves in like case” (Hogarth, *The Penetration of Arabia*, p.274-277).

Provenance: Bookplates of Percy Scawen Wyndham, influential politician and connoisseur, and cousin to Wilfrid Scawen Blunt.

Macro, 859.





Heroism in Arabic literature

4 [KUWAIT]. VARIOUS AUTHORS. (Fourth session. Arab Writers' Conference. Kuwait, 20-28 December 1958.)

First edition. Arabic text. 35 half-tone photographic illustrations. Large 8vo. Later half leather and marbled boards, spine lettered in gilt, new endpapers; leather a little rubbed in places, otherwise very good. 674pp. Kuwait, Government Press, [c.1959]. **SOLD**

A fascinating record of a conference organised by the cultural committee of the Arab League and hosted by Kuwait. The conference brought together writers and academics from across the Arab World to discuss and present research on the theme of heroism in Arabic literature, citing works from pre Islamic times to the modern age.

The participating countries were Kuwait, Bahrain, Dubai, Qatar, Muscat and Oman, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Sudan, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon. Many of the individual speakers are shown delivering their talks and papers in the photographic illustrations.

Apparently unrecorded, with no copies in Library Hub or OCLC.

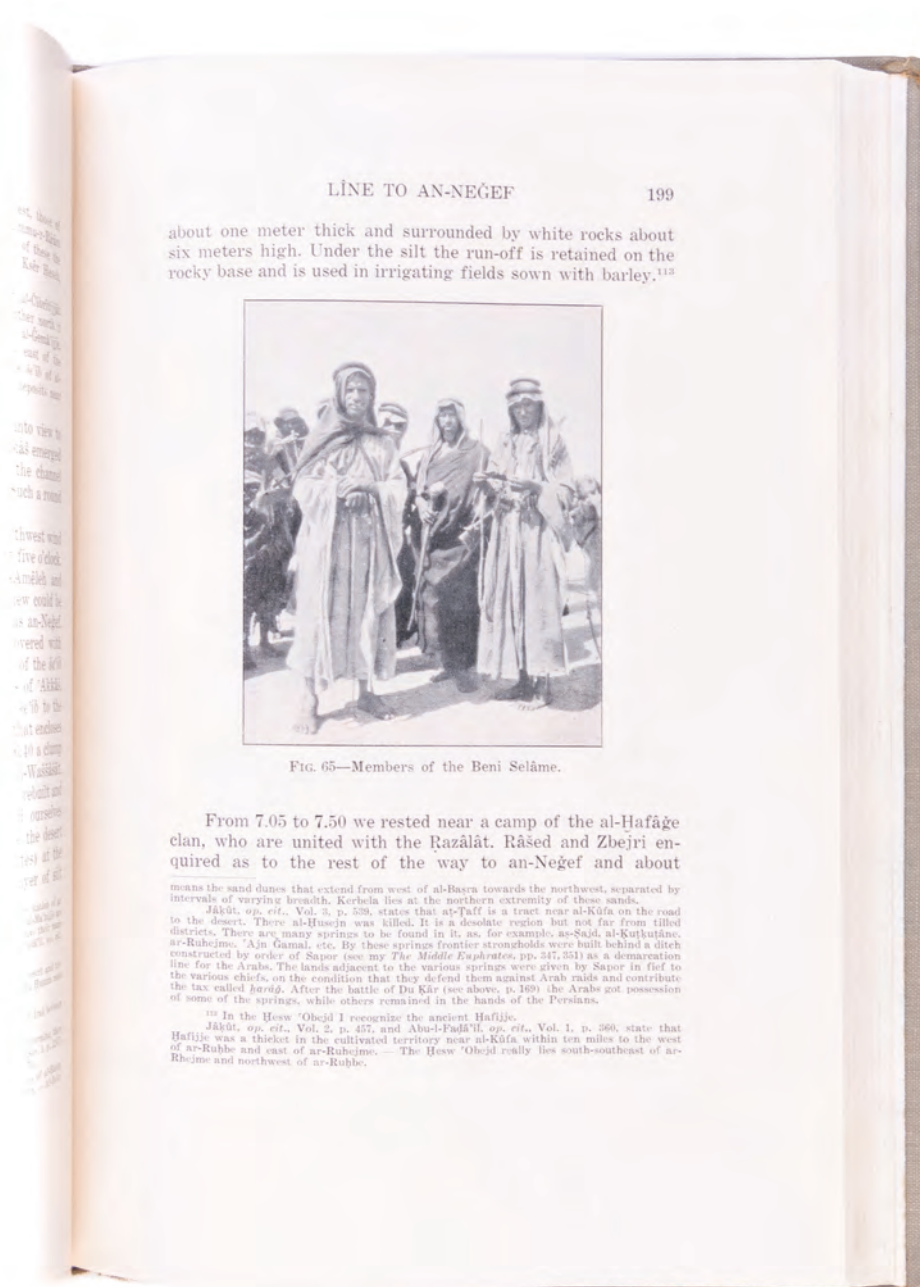


5 MUSIL (Alois). The Northern Hegaz [With] Arabia Deserta [and] The Middle Euphrates [and] Palmyrena [and] Northern Negd [and] The Manners and Customs of the Rwala Bedouins [plus] A. Musil Map of Northern Arabia (in case).

First editions. 6 volumes and a map case. Each vol. has a frontispiece and numerous maps and illustrations in the text. Some also have loose maps in end-pockets, a total of two large folding maps, 4 index maps and a genealogical table of the Al Saud. (Vol.2 *Arabia Deserta* calls for a loose index map but this copy, as with most others, was issued without it & the corresponding end-pocket.) The map case contains a large four-part folding colour map of Northern Arabia. Large 8vo. Original grey cloth, with black labels to spine and upper board; spine of vol.3 sunned, some corners bumped, a few labels abraded, light foxing to endpapers, otherwise very good. xii 374pp; xviii, 631; xvi, 426; xiv, 367; xiv, 368; xiv, 712pp. New York, The American Geographical Society, 1926-1928. £3,750

A very good set of Musil's important expeditions in Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq), Jordan, Syria and Central Arabia (now Saudi Arabia), with the oft-missing map case containing a large four-part map of Northern Arabia.

Alois Musil (1868-1944) was a remarkable scholar and explorer whose achievements were initially quietly registered outside German-speaking Europe, but have since garnered increasing attention. Born into a farming family in Moravia, his academic ability set him on course for the Church, leading to a doctorate in theology in 1895. That same year he continued his studies at the French Biblical and Archaeological School of Jerusalem, where his fascination with the Middle East truly took hold. Further study in the library of St. Joseph University (Beirut) prepared him for field work and he commenced the first of many journeys into the deserts of Syria, Jordan, Sinai and Northern Arabia. Though those travels yielded myriad rediscoveries, that of Qusayr 'Amra, an eighth-century Umayyad lodge, is best known, as the walls, much to Musil's own incredulity, bore figurative frescoes.



about one meter thick and surrounded by white rocks about six meters high. Under the silt the run-off is retained on the rocky base and is used in irrigating fields sown with barley.¹¹²



FIG. 65—Members of the Beni Selâme.

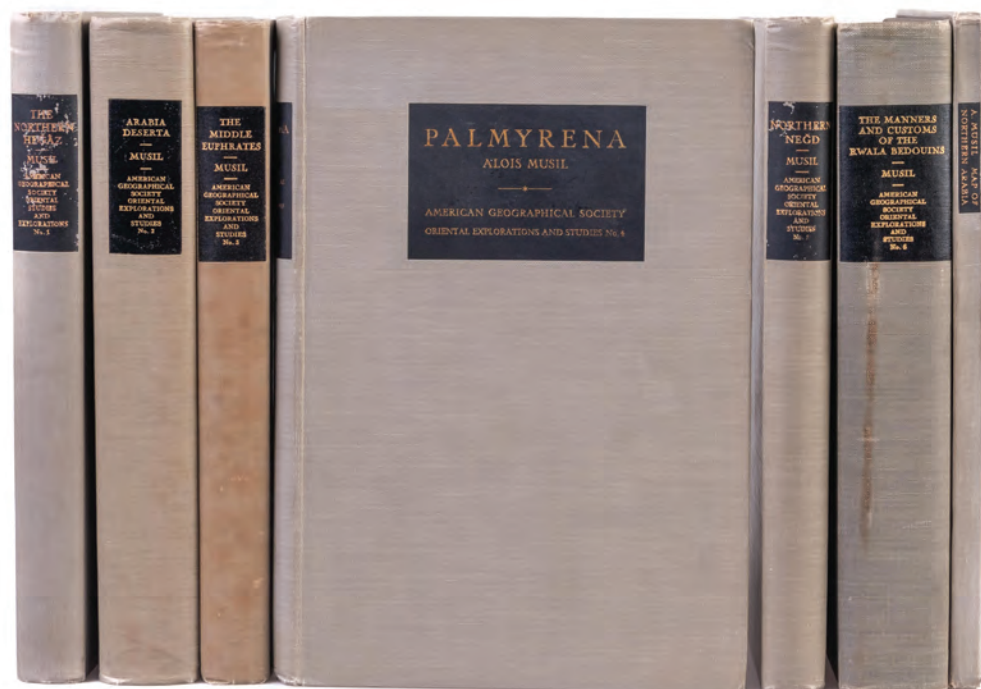
From 7.05 to 7.50 we rested near a camp of the al-Hafâge clan, who are united with the Razâlât. Râsed and Zbejri enquired as to the rest of the way to an-Negef and about

means the sand dunes that extend from west of al-Basra towards the northwest, separated by intervals of varying breadth. Kербela lies at the northern extremity of these sands. Jâkût, *op. cit.*, Vol. 3, p. 529, states that al-Tâif is a tract near al-Kûfa on the road to the desert. There al-Husejn was killed. It is a desolate region but not far from fertile districts. There are many springs to be found in it as, for example, as-Sajid, al-Kutlûtâne, ar-Rubeime, 'Ain Gamâl, etc. By these springs frontier strongholds were built behind a ditch constructed by order of Sapor (see my *The Middle Euphrates*, pp. 247, 251) as a demarcation line for the Arabs. The lands adjacent to the various springs were given by Sapor in fief to the various chiefs, on the condition that they defend them against Arab raids and contribute the tax called *harâg*. After the battle of Du Kâr (see above, p. 169) the Arabs got possession of some of the springs, while others remained in the hands of the Persians.

¹¹² In the Hegaz 'Obejd I recognize the ancient Hafijje. Jâkût, *op. cit.*, Vol. 2, p. 457, and Abu-l-Fadâ'î, *op. cit.*, Vol. 1, p. 290, state that Hafijje was a thicket in the cultivated territory near al-Kûfa, within ten miles to the west of ar-Rubbe and east of ar-Rubeime. — The Hegaz 'Obejd really lies south-east of ar-Rubeime and northwest of ar-Rubbe.

The present set documents his expeditions between 1896 and 1914, with the first five volumes organised geographically and written as topographical itineraries. A significant part of the content covers what is now northern Saudi Arabia and volume five, *Northern Negd*, includes a history of the Al Saud (see Appendix IX). The sixth volume, devoted to the Ruwallah, is arguably the most important as it was the most in-depth study of an Arab tribe produced in the period. Musil spent long periods with the Ruwallah, including their migration of 1909, and became firm friends with their foremost leader Prince Nuri ibn Hazza ibn Sha'lan. It was Ibn Sha'lan that bestowed an honorary title on the outsider in his midst, "Shaykh Musa al-Ruwayli" (Cf. Harrigan, Peter, 'From Moravia to Arabia' in *Saudi Aramco World*, Nov.-Dec. 2009, pp.8-16).

Macro, 1666 (*Arabia Deserta*), 1671 (*Rwala Bedouins*), 1673 (*Northern Arabia*), 1674 (*Northern Hegaz*), 1675 (*Northern Negd*).



One of the great rarities of Arabian exploration

6 PHILBY (H. St J.). Southern Nejd. Journey to Kharj, Aflaj, Sulaiyyil, and Wadi Dawasir in 1918.

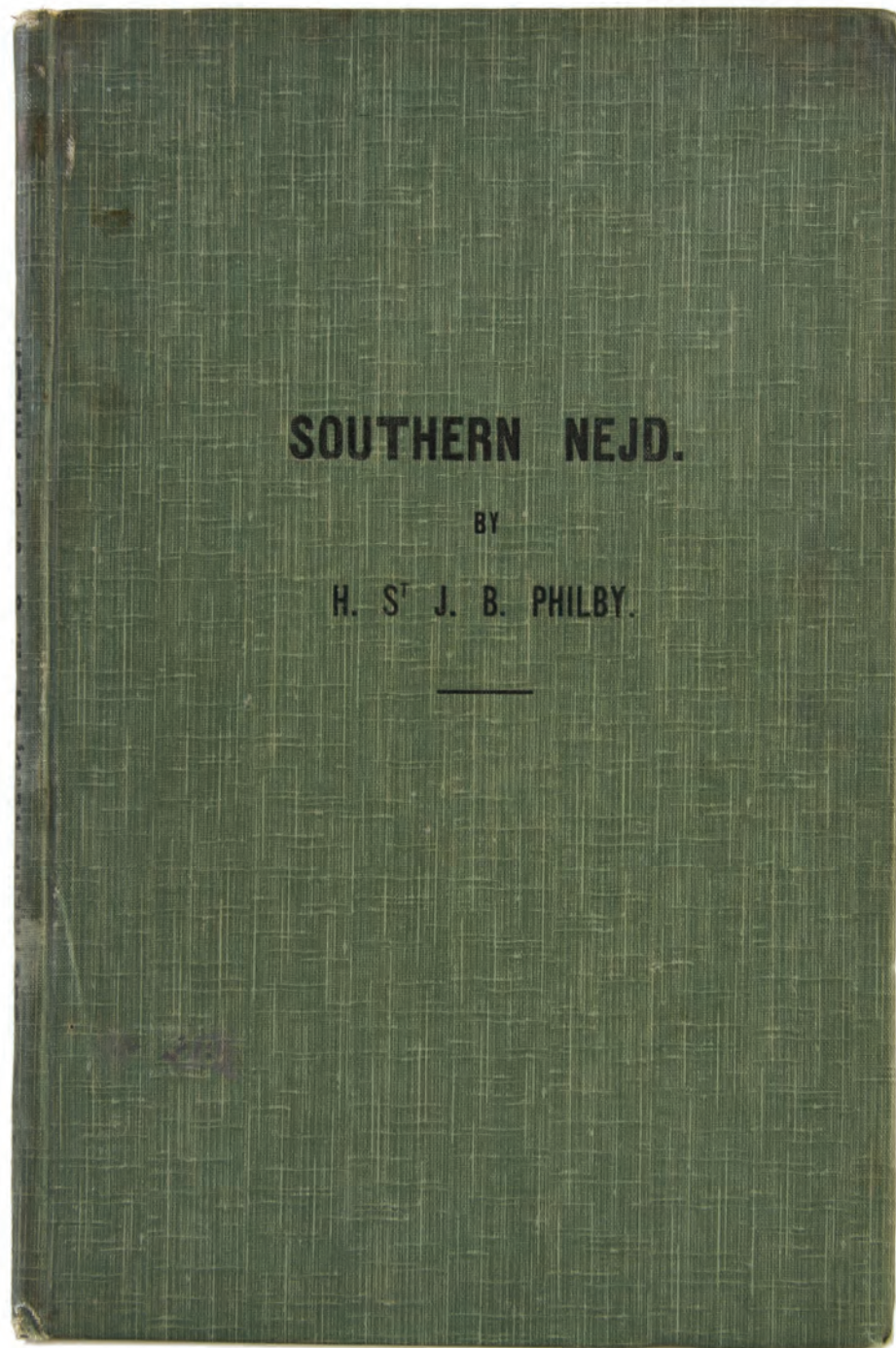
[Second edition], one of 100 copies. Folding map. Tall 8vo. Original green cloth, title stamped in black to upper cover and spine; extremities a little worn and darkened, a few small stains to the boards, ms. shelf number to spine, otherwise good. Interior pages and map in very good condition. Stamp of the Residency Office Aden (dated Mar. 1919) to half-title and later stamps of the High Commissioner's Office Aden and British Embassy Aden to front free-endpaper (plus ms. shelf numbers). [iv], 81, [1]pp. Cairo, Government Press, 1919, (but printed by the Arab Bureau, 1918).

SOLD

Rare and important. An early official work by Philby, recording his pioneering journey through the southern regions of Najd to the Wadi Al-Dawasir.

H. St John Philby (1885-1960) first set foot in the Najd region of Central (now Saudi) Arabia in late November 1917 as head of the British mission to Ibn Saud. He spent ten days in the future capital Riyadh, chiefly engaged in interviews, and departed the city with a deep respect for the Saudi ruler. Such was the impression left by Ibn Saud that Philby famously began to favour him as the man to unite Arabia, a position directly in contradiction of the official backing of Hussein bin Ali Al-Hashimi.

He returned to Riyadh in 1918, again as a representative of the British Government. With more time on his hands he made plans to explore unmapped parts of the region and pressed Ibn Saud for his approval and help in securing guides. He undertook the journey described in *Southern Nejd* in May to June, travelling 640 miles to the oases of Al-Sulaiyyil and Wadi Al-Dawasir, and returning by an alternate route. With equipment sourced in Cairo "...he was able to fix some latitudes and to produce for the Royal Geographical



Society the raw material for the first maps of uncharted Arabian terrain for which he is justly famous” (Elizabeth Monroe, *Philby of Arabia*, London, 1973, p.87).

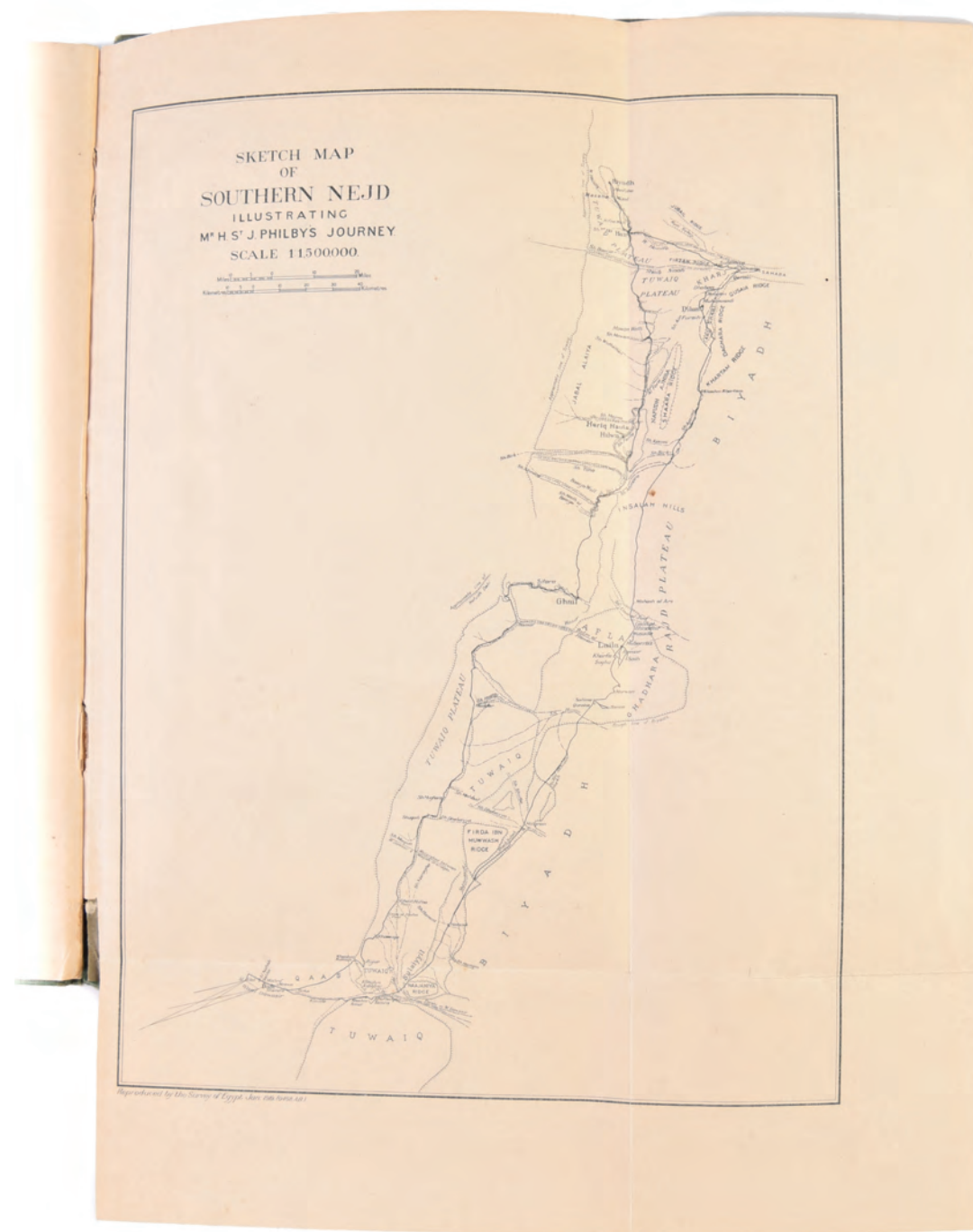
The journey was instantly recognised as significant and printed editions of Philby’s report were quickly prepared. The first edition of 350 copies was published by the Government Press in Simla (Shimla) in July 1918, and was then followed by an even more limited edition printed later that year and published in January 1919 by the Arab Bureau in Cairo. **The present copy is one of the 100 issued by the Arab Bureau, “for official use only”, and with the proofs of the first twenty pages corrected by Philby (thus featuring changes not found in the Simla edition).** It also features a folding map not present in the Simla publication.

It is possible the proofs were not fully corrected because Philby went to London at around this time, but it is also conceivable that his growing allegiance to Ibn Saud had strained his relationship with the Arab Bureau beyond breaking point.

Rare. Library Hub locates three copies in the UK, at Oxford, SOAS and the London Library. There is also a copy in the India Office Records at the British Library (IOR/L/PS/20/C169). OCLC adds just two further holdings, at Leiden University and Georgetown.

Provenance: David John Blogg (1948-2021), diplomatic service from 1971 to 2006 including postings to Tripoli and Jeddah.

Macro, 1802.



An American Naval Surgeon in Oman

7 RUSCHENBERGER (W.S.W.). Narrative of a Voyage round the World, during the Years 1835, 36, and 37; including a Narrative of an Embassy to the Sultan of Muscat and the King of Siam.

First English edition. 2 vols. Two tinted lithograph frontispieces and two further lithograph plates. 8vo. Original grey paper-covered boards, original paper labels to spines; both spines professionally repaired, some loss of paper to extremities, corners bumped, head of vol.II chipped, otherwise very good. Interior pages very clean and fresh. Ink ownership inscription of J. Johnson Brown to front pastedown of first volume. 8ads, viii, 450; viii, 472pp. London, Richard Bentley, 1838. **£2,000**

A brilliant account of Edmund Roberts' second official mission to the Indian Ocean and Far East, written by the surgeon who accompanied the American legation. **It includes several valuable chapters on Zanzibar and Muscat, and a description of the Omani ruler, Said bin Sultan (1791-1856), with whom Roberts exchanged ratified treaties, initially agreed on his previous mission.**

The legation set out from New York aboard *USS Peacock* in April 1835 with the aim of securing trade agreements and peace treaties with various Eastern powers (many of which Roberts had previously visited in 1832-34). In the course of the voyage they visited not only China, Java and India, but also Hawaii, Zanzibar, Muscat and California.

The first volume contains "Sketches in the Dominions of the Sultan of Muscat" (page 11 to 156), which describe Zanzibar and Muscat in great detail; their geography, trade, street-life and personalities. Ruschenberger's sketches of the latter are especially interesting, as in addition to describing important people, he records the spaces in which he met them. Of the impressive Hassan bin Ibrahim, Captain of the Sultan's Navy, we learn not

only of his education, his "eminently graceful" (p.28) costume and his many duties (such as transacting the American commerce at Zanzibar), but also of his home and his belongings. The rooms are memorable and perfectly encapsulate the mix of cultures at Zanzibar: "A cage full of small doves, and a glass lamp-shade, were suspended from the ceiling, and the wall was ornamented by several English prints of rural subjects." (p.45).

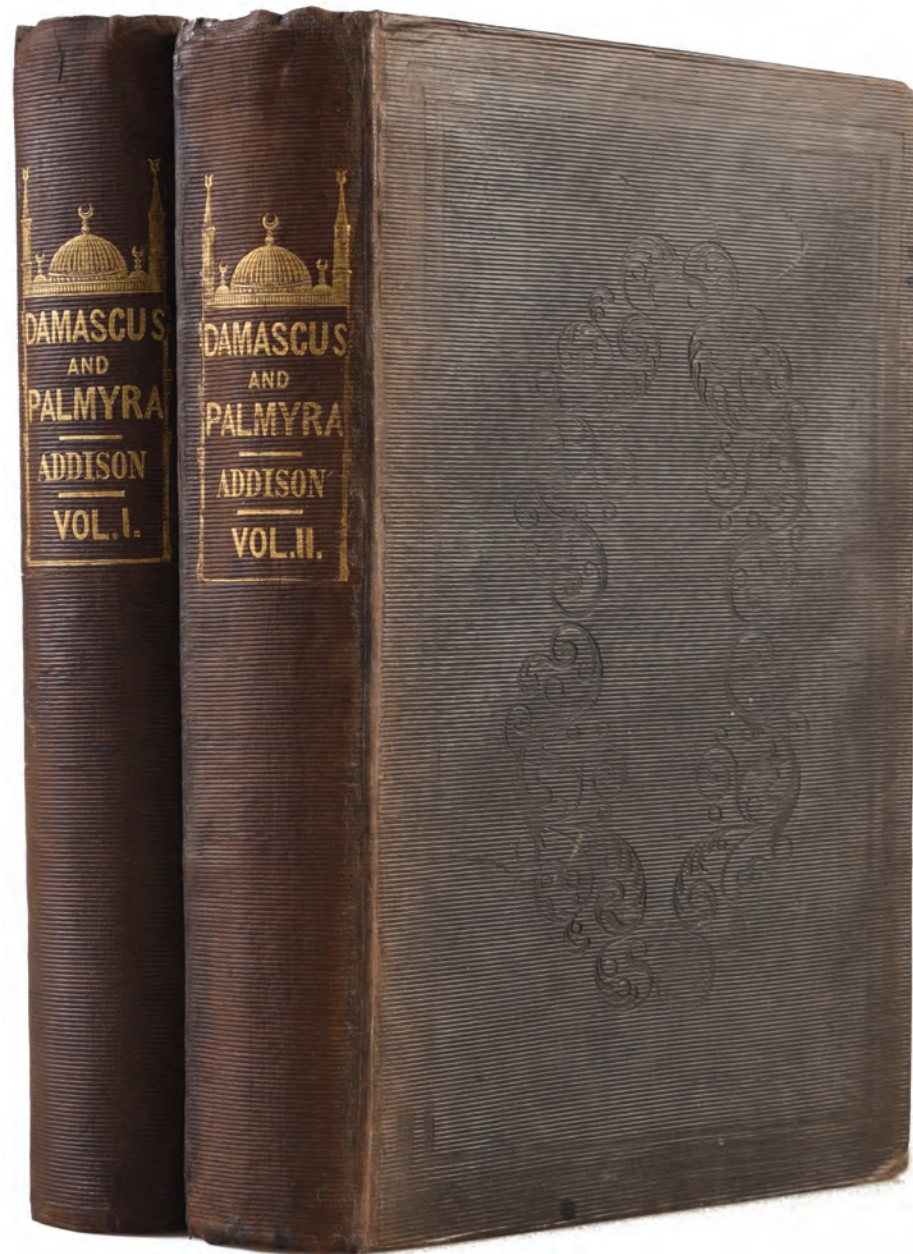
Two meetings with Said bin Sultan are accounted for, the second of which centred on the exchange of ratified treaties — the first to be made between America and a country of the Arabian Peninsula. (The text following the second meeting prints the treaty in full.) Ruschenberger captures the amicable nature of the exchange, and the good relationship between Roberts and the Sultan, who had first met during one of Roberts' early commercial voyages.

This edition is somewhat different to the American first (Philadelphia, 1838). As well as having attractive plates (the US edition was unillustrated) it predictably lacks several anti-British comments.

Sabin, 74186; Hill, 1498;
Not in Macro.



IRAQ, JORDAN, KURDISTAN, LEBANON PALESTINE, SYRIA & TURKEY



Damascene streets

8 ADDISON (Charles G.). **Damascus and Palmyra:
A Journey to the East. With a Sketch of the State and Prospects of
Syria, under Ibrahim Pasha.**

First edition. 2 vols. With the half-titles and 10 hand-coloured lithographed plates depicting figures in traditional dress [by Thackeray]. 8vo. Original blind-decorated black cloth, spines lettered in gilt, corners bumped spines neatly repaired, otherwise very good. Engraved bookplate of John Brinton to front pastedown of both vols. [8]ads, xviii, 440; xii, 484 pp. London, Richard Bentley, 1838. **£1,500**

A nice copy of Addison's travelogue, which is one of the best nineteenth-century English-language books on Syria. As the title suggests, much of the content focuses on the contemporary city of Damascus and the famous ruins of Palmyra.

Addison was much taken by Damascus and took pains to explore its innermost streets and semi-rural environs. He felt it possessed "much more character than Constantinople" (p.140) and on the strength of its "cafés, sherbet and smoking shops" really was "the Paris of the East" (p.144). His perambulations took him to busy hammams, the banks of the Barada, several grand residences and a cemetery where he was moved by the sight of "seven or eight hundred women ... collected round the tombs" (p.125). He was particularly interested in the commercial life of the city and even provides a small sketch of its book trade, as he sought out an



DAMASCENE LADY.

“original copy” (p.114) of the *Arabian Nights*. Though he eventually found an obliging bookseller the exchange was derailed when Addison made the error of also enquiring after a Qur’an.

The narrative is supplemented not only by historical chapters but also political reflections, in which Addison examines the problems faced by Greater Syria in the wake of the Egyptian-Ottoman War (1831-33). While critical of Muhammad Ali Pasha’s rule he is consistently scathing in his assessment of the how the Ottomans previously controlled the region. Blackmer, in his note on the book, picked up on Addison’s hostility toward the Ottoman Empire: “Addison travelled in the Levant from April to October 1835, visiting Greece and Turkey as well as Syria. Addison was very anti-Turkish and also very critical of the Bavarian monarchy. According to the British Library Catalogue, the illustrations are after drawings by William Thackeray; they have been lithographed by G.E. Madeley and illustrate local costume.” (Blackmer).

Atabey, 9; Blackmer, 5. Not in Abbey.

In the rarely seen wrappers

9 [BELL (Gertrude)]. The Arab of Mesopotamia. [And] Asiatic Turkey.

First edition(?). Map frontispiece. 12mo. Original printed wrappers, very good. The interior slightly spotted. [vi], 193pp. Basrah, Published by the Superintendent Government Press, [1917].

RESERVED

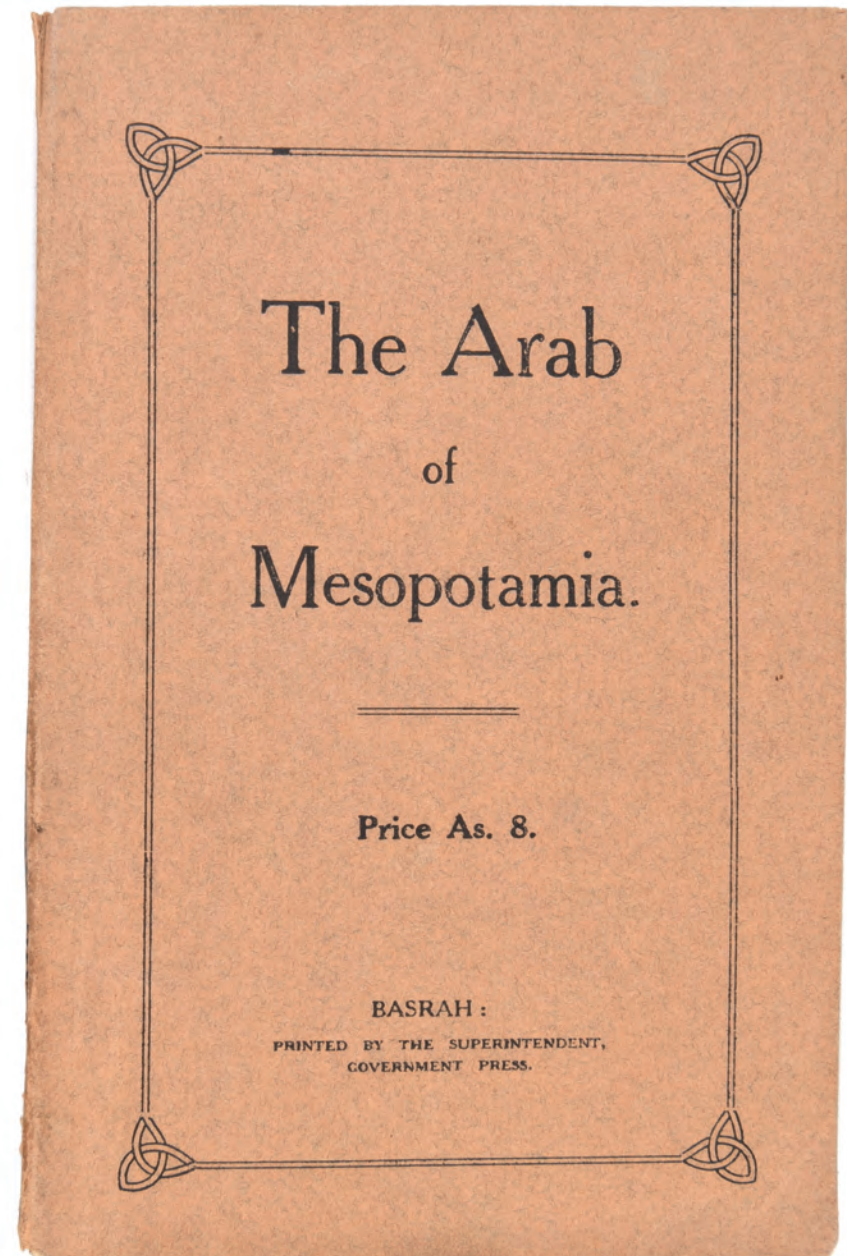
A highly desirable copy in the rarely seen wrappers.

In 1918 Gertrude Bell was the local agent of the Arab Bureau in Basra and contributed many articles to the *Arab Bulletin*. She is credited with writing the second part of this book, *Asiatic Turkey*, and at least two articles in the first part are written by her. As a central figure in the establishment of the modern state of Iraq, no European could have been better placed to contribute to this collection of essays.

Some of the essays concern the British occupation of parts of Mesopotamia during the First World War, while others are ethnographical, such as the short but fascinating description of the Sabaeans. **The fifth chapter, 'A Ruler of the Desert', describes the visit of Ibn Saud to Basra on November 27th 1916**, where he met British officials and local Sheikhs, and witnessed an exhibition of the latest military technologies. A short account of his early life and rise to power is also given, along with a memorable and awe-struck physical description: "He is a man of splendid physique, standing well over six feet, and carrying himself with the air of one accustomed to command." (p.47).

It is unclear whether copies in wrappers were part of a later issue, or simply published at the same time as the better-known cloth copies as a cheaper alternative (at 8 annas they were half the price). Due to their comparative fragility few appear to have survived; this is only the second copy we have encountered.

Not in Macro.



10 [BRYCE (David), publisher.] [The Qur'an.]

Miniature photolithographed Qur'an, measuring 27 by 19mm. Original red roan, elaborate gilt decoration, two small scuffs, otherwise very good. Final leaf a little creased, rest of interior in excellent condition. Housed in the original metal locket with inset magnifying glass. Approx. 800pp. [Glasgow, D. Bryce & Son, c.1900.] **SOLD**

A lovey copy of David Bryce's miniature Qur'an, the most prized of his diminutive books. Published for international distribution, the Qur'ans were exported across much of the Islamic world and were carried by Muslim soldiers fighting in the First World War.

An ambitious and innovative publisher, Bryce utilised photolithography to produce facsimiles of the sacred texts of several world religions. His miniature Qur'an was developed in collaboration with Henry Frowde of the Oxford University Press, who supplied the thin India paper that made the venture physically possible. Two nineteenth-century printed Ottoman Qur'ans (based on seventeenth-century manuscript versions by Hafiz Osman) were chosen for the miniature reproductions, an "1871 edition, complete with the signatures and seal impressions of the ten Islamic scholars. ... [and] an 1884 Istanbul edition ... which reproduces in its entirety the printer's colophon of the imperial press in Istanbul." (Nick McBurney, *Amulet, Curio, Text: the Bryce Miniature Qur'an*, p.262). The present copy is an excellent example of the latter.

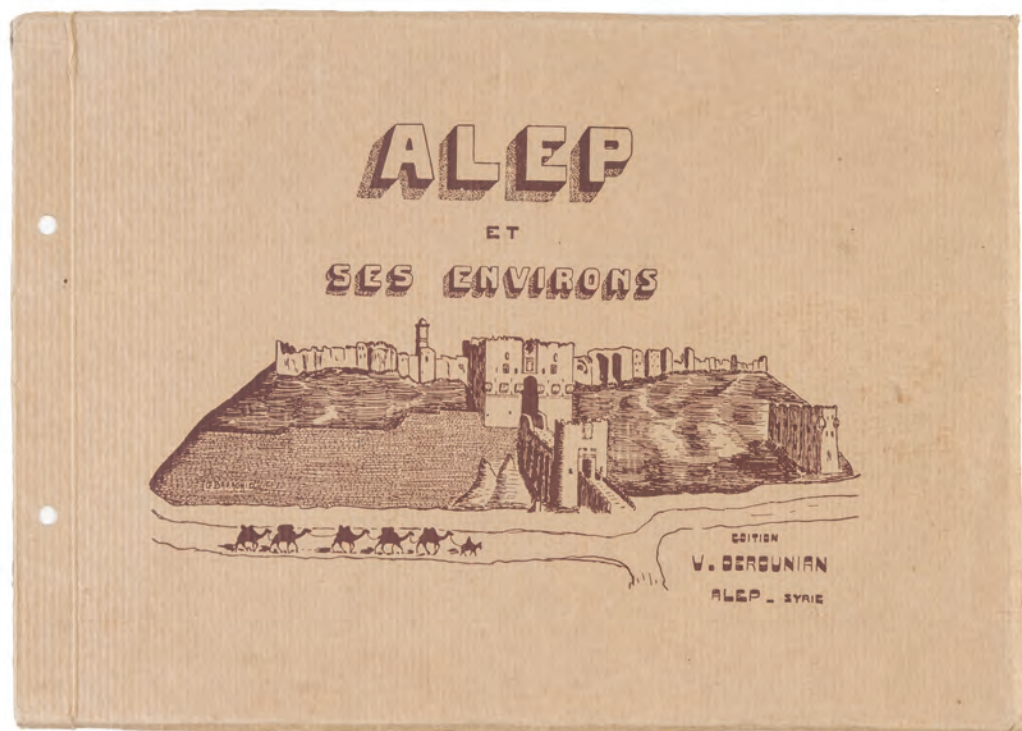
The Qur'an was notably carried by some Muslim soldiers serving with the Allies in the First World War, where its size, locket and magnifying glass enabled transportation and devotion in the midst of conflict. The catalogue to the remarkable exhibition *Middle Eastern Languages and the Print Revolution* (Mainz, 2002) states that copies became talismans for some soldiers, an insight possibly stimulated by a passage from T.E. Lawrence's *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*: "[Auda] told me later, in strict confidence, that thirteen years before he had bought an amulet Koran for one hundred and

twenty pounds and had not since been wounded ... The book was a Glasgow reproduction, costing eighteen pence; but Auda's deadliness did not let people laugh at his superstition" (Book 4, Ch. 53). Several sources also claim the Qur'an was officially distributed to troops, but that detail appears to be anecdotal.

The WWI ownership history is just part of the story of how they travelled across the world, with some copies speaking of other journeys (McBurney highlights a copy held by the Tropenmuseum, taken from Mecca to Aceh after the Hajj of 1918). It also helps explain why, despite the mass production of the book, copies are somewhat scarce in the Western trade today. Louis Bondy, writing in 1981, deemed the Bryce Qur'an an "almost legendary title" of which it was "increasingly difficult to find copies" (*Miniature books: their history from the beginnings to the present day*, London, 1981, pp.111-112).

For a more detailed study of the Bryce Qur'an see the aforementioned article by Nick McBurney, 'Amulet, Curio, Text: the Bryce Miniature Qur'an' in *The Book Collector*, Summer 2019, pp.252-269.





A photographic hymn to Aleppo

11 DEROUNIAN (Vartan).

Alep et ses Environs.

First edition. 48 blue photogravure plates, with captions in French and English. Oblong 8vo. Original pictorial wrapper, amateur paper repairs to first leaf (also neat ownership inscription to verso) and head of spine, a few creases to final advertisement leaves. A very good copy. [3], [1]ad., [48]plates, [2]ads ff. Alep, Édition V. Derounian, [c.1931].

SOLD

A remarkable photographic record of Aleppo. The plates cover the great buildings of the city (including the Citadel and Great Mosque) and the vaulted streetscapes of small residences and bazaars. Certain images stand out for their classical framing and warmth, such as the glowing interior of a coppersmith's shop. Following the Aleppo images are photographs of the Dead Cities of northwestern Syria, including Raqqa and al-Bara.

Vartan Derounian (1888-1954) was an Armenian-Syrian photographer, who spent a number of decades documenting the people and places of Northern Syria, and is best known for his photographs of Armenian refugees, who had escaped the genocide of 1914-1923. His shop was situated on the Boulevard de France (later renamed Shukri al-Quwatli Street, after the first president of post-independence Syria), selling prints, photographic equipment and processing services. An advert on the lower wrapper, with a line drawing of the shopfront, states that he was the official photographer to the French delegation, archaeological service and administrations in the city.

Rare. Library Hub locates one copy (at the BL) and OCLC adds just four more holdings. Unlike other examples we have handled, in which the plates are printed in sepia, this copy features blue-toned photographic plates.



St. Simeon — Ruines byzantines du Ve S.

St. Simeon. Byzantine ruins of the 6th century

Scarce Mesopotamian Campaign manual, with intelligence on the Persian Gulf

12 [FIRST WORLD WAR]. GENERAL STAFF, INDIA.
Field Notes. Mesopotamia. February, 1917. Catalogue No. M.3.
(11349).

Second edition. Folding heliozincographed map of 'Lower Mesopotamia' (dated Oct. 1916). Original limp green buckram with wrap-around fastening tie; extremities slightly worn, mild bubbling to spine, tiny white stains to covers. Interior in excellent condition. A very good copy. [iv], 326, [1]blank pp. Calcutta, Superintendent Government Printing, India, 1917. **£1,850**

A rare manual printed for the use of officers serving in the Mesopotamian Campaign of the First World War. **It largely concerns lower Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq), but also contains valuable information on Kuwait, Eastern Arabia and the Persian Gulf.**

The first chapter encapsulates the recent history of the region: outlining how Britain won a monopoly over trade in the Gulf in the nineteenth century and stressing the challenge posed to her superiority by Turkish and German advances. It then details the political relations between the Ottoman Empire and Mesopotamia, Kuwait, Al Hasa, and Najd.

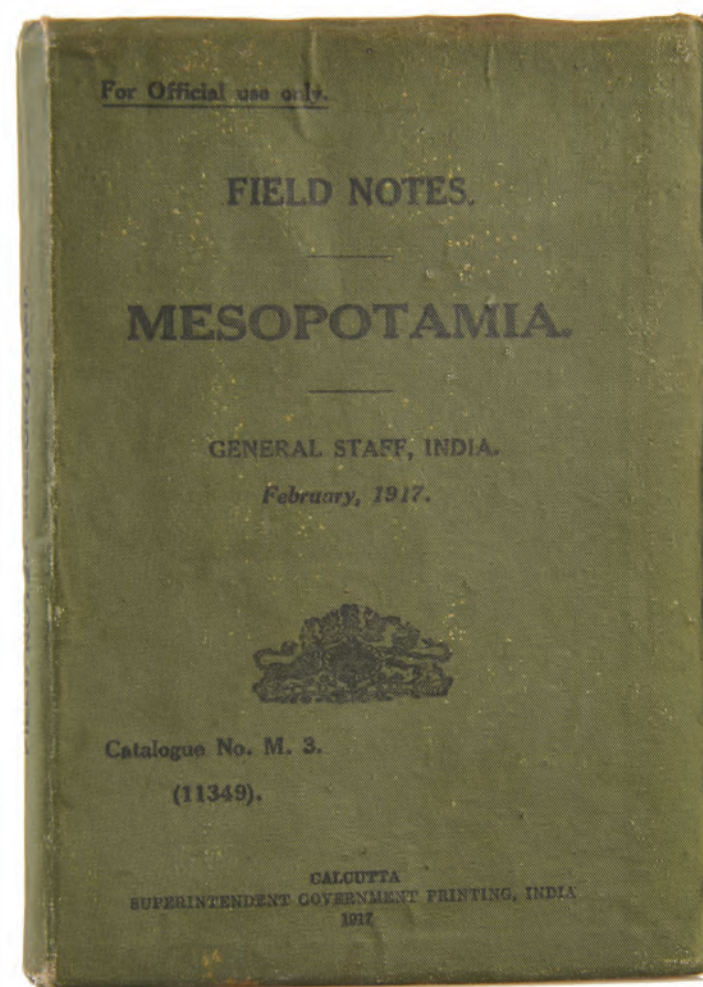
The following seven chapters — geography, population, resources, military, maritime, administration and communications (incl. routes) — primarily focus on Mesopotamia, giving a highly detailed account of a landmass covering much of present-day Southern Iraq and part of the Khuzestan Province of Iran. There are also important sections on the strength of the Turkish army and navy.

The book is a revised version of the manual prepared by the General Staff, India in February 1915. It retains all but one of the chapter headings (Chapter V is changed to 'Notes on the Turkish Army') and only Chapter VIII has been significantly expanded — the section on routes comprising 121-269 pp. compared with

123-178 pp. in the 1916 edition. The other chapters contain a few minor additions and revisions. The final part of chapter V has been rewritten and a few sections, such as 'Expedition to Muhammerah, 1857' have been omitted.

More significant changes have been made to the appendices, with the addition of B - 'Table of Distances' and D - 'Some notes for Officers proceeding to Mesopotamia' and the removal of Appendix A ('Notes on Qatar Peninsula and Doha') of the 1916 edition.

This copy does not have the separately issued index, found with some examples.



Intelligence on Mesopotamia

13 FOREIGN OFFICE. Mesopotamia. Handbooks prepared under the direction of the historical section of the Foreign Office. No.63.

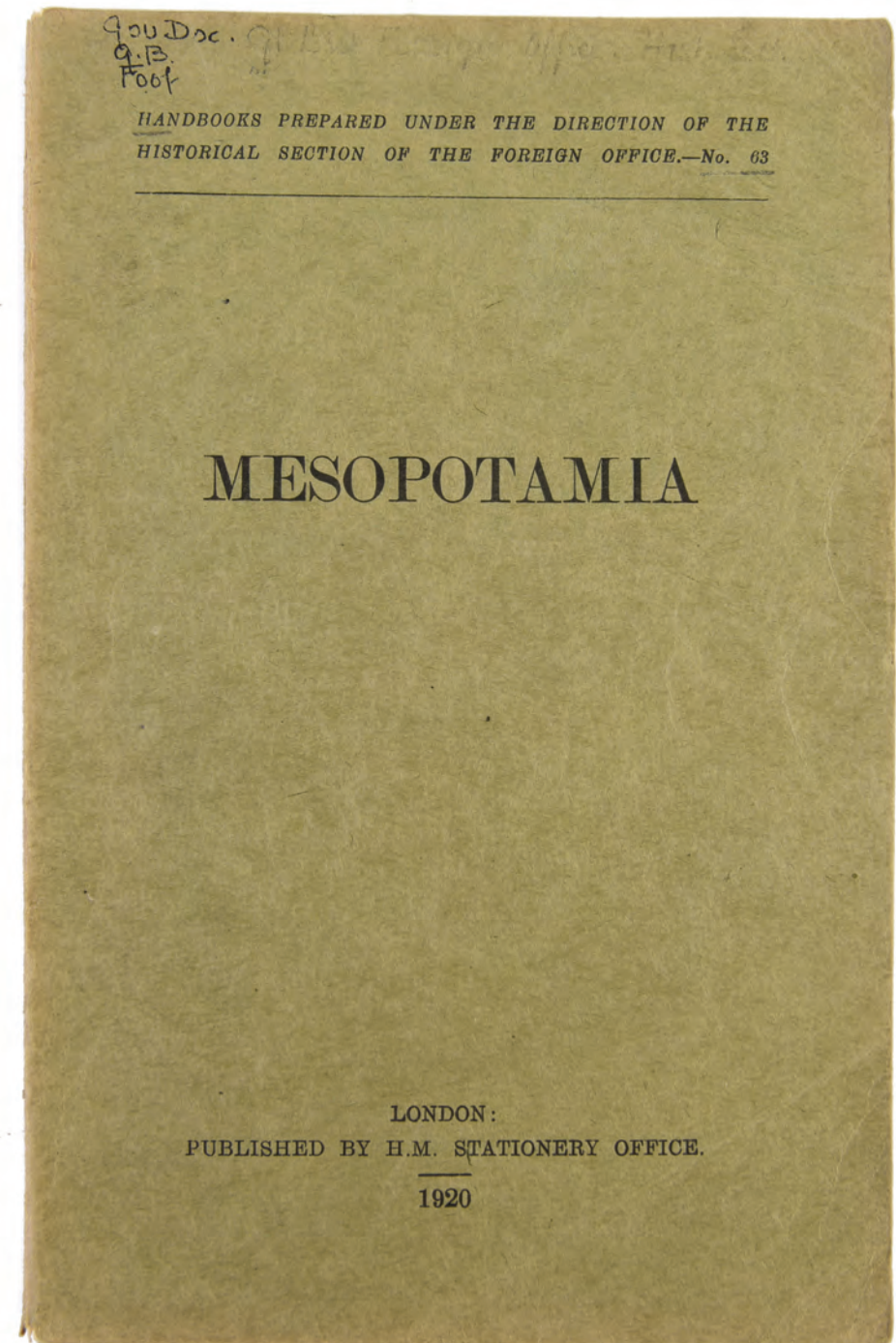
Public issue. 8vo. Original green printed wrappers, spine a little sunned, ms. reference number to front cover. A very good copy. [vii], [1]blank, 134, [7]list of handbooks pp. London, H.M. Stationery Office, 1920. **£950**

A scarce handbook, compiled a year before the founding of the Kingdom of Iraq. Alongside the objective information are explicit statements of intent for control of the formerly-Ottoman territory: "No power in the world has any claim comparable with that of Great Britain to control the destinies of Mesopotamia." (p.43).

In the Spring of 1917 the Foreign Office started work on a series of handbooks for the use of British delegates attending the Peace Conference. Published in 1918 and 1919, the handbooks were only issued to officials and all were marked 'Confidential' on the upper wrapper. In late 1919 it was decided that a revised version should be made available to the British public. The present handbook is among the rarest of that series. It contains a wealth of information on Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq), covering, inter alia, geography, political history and economic conditions.

Much of the information would have been gained during the Mesopotamian Campaign of WWI, in which the British, in tandem with other Allied forces, drove the Ottomans out of their Middle Eastern territories and took up occupation of key cities such as Baghdad. The political history chapter is surprisingly frank about the build-up of tensions between the two Empires over the period 1834-1914, citing "the growth of German influence at Constantinople" (p.26). Other sections look to the future and sketch out Britain's plans for state-building, stressing the need for investment and political direction to restore "Mesopotamia to prosperity." (p.42).

Fairly well-held institutionally but scarce in commerce, with no copies appearing in auction records.



A handsome copy, from the library of Sir John Hobhouse

14 POCOCKE (Richard). A Description of the East, and Some other Countries.



First edition. 3 parts bound in 2 volumes. Engraved title-page vignettes, an engraved dedication in volume 2, and 178 engraved plates and maps. Folio. Contemporary speckled calf, the edges blind-tooled, the spines with raised bands ruled in gilt and contrasting lettering pieces; leather repairs (by Maggs c.1959) to headcaps and tailcaps, joints cracked but holding firmly, extremities a little rubbed, corners bumped, otherwise very good. Interior exceptionally clean and fresh. Engraved bookplates of John Brinton and Sir John C. Hobhouse to paste-downs. Typescript letter to Brinton from Maggs adhered to free endpaper of first vol. (another letter from Maggs loosely inserted). [2], vi, [8](contents of text and plates), 310; [2], xi, [1](errata), 268, vii, [1](errata), 308pp. London, Printed for the Author by W. Bowyer, and sold by J. and P. Knapton, 1743-1745. **£6,000**

A handsome copy of an essential work on Egypt and the Levant, from the library of the traveller and friend of Lord Byron, Sir John Hobhouse (1786-1869).

Richard Pococke (1704-1765) was educated at Corpus Christi College, Oxford and enjoyed a successful start to his ecclesiastical career before deciding to undertake a period of foreign travel in his late twenties. In 1733 he started out on the well-trodden path of the grand tour but carried on beyond its bounds, into the less visited Near East.

From Alexandria (reached in September 1737), he explored Rosetta (Rashid), Dandarah, Luxor and Cairo, taking down descriptions, plans and sketches of, inter alia, the Sphinx, the pyramids at Giza and one of the staggering statues of Amenhotep III. He then pushed on to Palestine, Lebanon and Syria, where his attention was not only drawn to the seductive antiquity of Jerusalem and Baalbek but also the contemporary urban life of

Damascus and Aleppo. In Damascus he was impressed by the grandeur of the Umayyad Mosque and the “remarkably pleasant” (v.II, p.122) coffee houses, and found many aspects of Aleppo to his liking, such as air “so fine, that the people lie on the tops of their houses during the summer season” (v.II, p.151). His westward journey included stops at Cyprus, Crete, parts of Asia Minor and Greece.

The first volume of *A Description of the East...*, focusing on Egypt, was published a year after his return to England in 1743. Its informational richness, geographical novelty and attractive illustrations overcame a style lacking literary flourishes — Pococke’s introduction defended the dryness of his descriptions — to yield a positive reception from the reading public. Buoyed by its success, he set about the second volume “with greater cheerfulness” (v.II, p.iii) and it was also well received. Success as a writer did not see him stray from his chosen career and he spent the rest of his life in the Irish Church, becoming the Archdeacon of Dublin in 1745 and the Bishop of Ossory in 1756. His final position was Bishop of Meath, where he planted cedar trees from seeds he is said to have retained from his time in Lebanon. (Cf. Daniel William Kemp, ‘Biographical Sketch’ in *Pococke’s Tours in Scotland, 1747, 1750, 1760*, Edinburgh, 1887, p.lx).

Provenance: 1). Sir John C. Hobhouse (1786-1869), friend and travelling companion (and later executor) of Byron. 2). John Brinton, noted collector of books on the Near and Middle East.

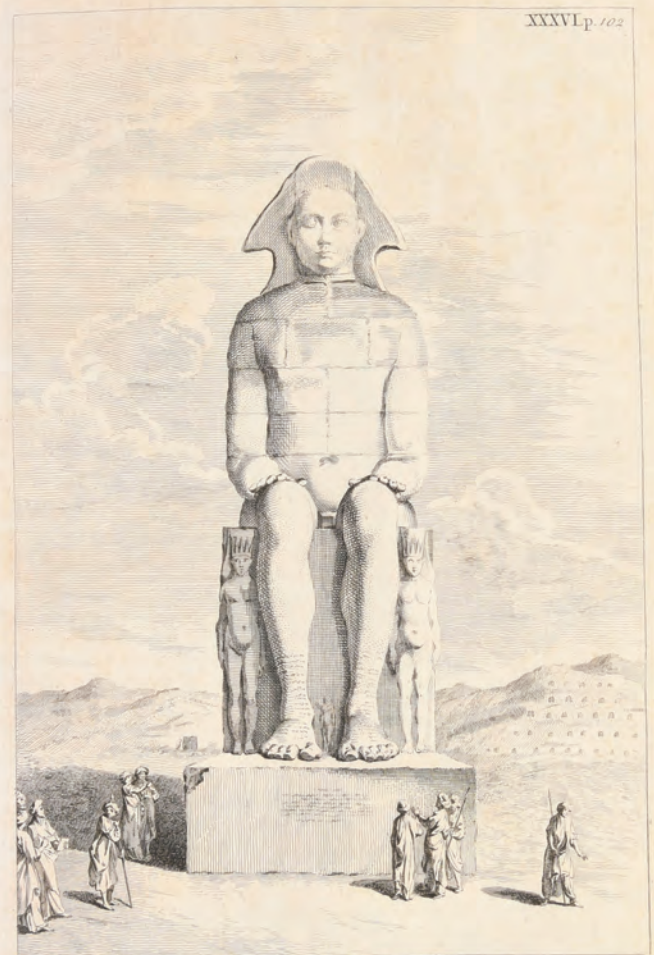
Atabey, 965; *Blackmer*, 1323; *Ibrahim-Hilmy II*, p. 124.

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XXXVI p. 102

The STATUE, of MEMNON at THEBES.
To The R. Hon. William Lord Viscount Duncannon.

*"I can assure you that if I ever looked well in anything,
it is in the Asiatic dress"*

15 [STANHOPE (Lady Hester)]. [MERYON (Charles Lewis), narrated by]. *Travels of Lady Hester Stanhope; Forming the Completion of Her Memoirs. Narrated by Her Physician.*

First edition. 3 vols. Lithograph frontispieces and several wood engravings in the text. 12mo. Contemporary half calf and marbled boards, gilt rules and brown morocco labels to spines; extremities a little rubbed, corners bumped, otherwise very good. xix, [1], 372; ix, [2], 400; viii, 422, [1]pp. London, Henry Coburn, 1846.

£1,250

An absorbing account of Lady Hester Stanhope's first seven years of travel in the Near and Middle East. Narrated by her physician Charles Meryon, who was by her side from the start, it describes her first experiences of Syria and Lebanon, including her famously intrepid trip to Palmyra.

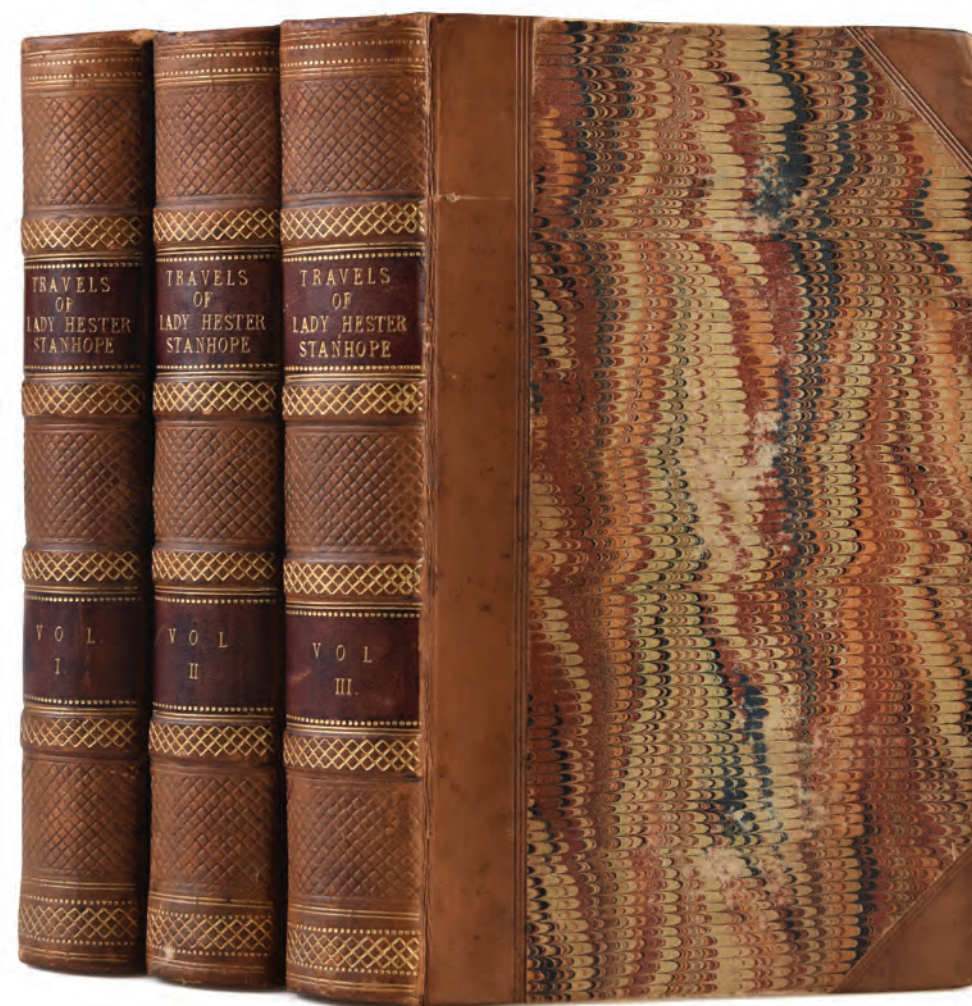
In 1810 Stanhope left a life of aristocratic comfort for Sicily, where she hoped the different climate might calm her physical ailments. The beginning of her obsession with the East arguably began with a trip to Istanbul and was sealed soon afterwards, somewhat surprisingly, by a shipwreck off Rhodes. The wreck left her without possessions and in need of new clothes, which, she decided, would be those of a Turkish male: "I can assure you that if I ever looked well in anything, it is in the Asiatic dress" (p.109). From then on she appeared committed to a life in the Ottoman Levant.

Travels... was preceded by a work on Stanhope's later life, titled *Memoirs of the Lady Hester Stanhope...* (London, 1845). It is possible that episode was published first as she was at her most eccentric in her last years, inhabiting an old monastery at Joun in Mount Lebanon. The romantic, albeit ultimately unhappy, picture

of her existence there won many readers and no doubt convinced Meryon of the worth, both cultural and commercial, of telling the whole story.

"Despite their diffuseness the *Memoirs* make excellent reading... Meryon describes with the utmost minuteness her complicated oriental environment, her tyranny and her interminable conversation... with an almost Boswellian power of self-effacement he listened to and recorded her views..." (ODNB).

Blackmer, 1117 (Memoirs...); Robinson (Wayward Women), pp.57-58.



Essays on the Land of Two Rivers

16 [VAN ESS (John), et al]. Historical Mesopotamia.

First edition. Sketch map (Babylonia and Assyria) and eight half-tone black and white photographic plates. 8vo. Original gray pictorial wrappers, book-block stapled; wrappers a little dust-soiled, amateur glue-repair to foot of spine, remnants of stamps to lower wrapper, ink ownership inscription to upper wrapper. A few pencil marks to margins of second essay, rest of Interior clean and bright. Overall, a good copy of a fragile pamphlet. [iv], 58pp. Basrah, Times Press, 1924. **£350**

Ten excellent short essays on Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq), printed at the Times offices in Basra. According to the preface, the pamphlet was published in response to growing curiosity about the country, sparked by British involvement post-WWI.

Most of the essays, as per the title, focus on the distant past, taking the reader to the founding of Baghdad in the eighth century, Basra in the Middle Ages and the construction of the Ctesiphon Arch (Taq Kasra). The latter is one of the finer pieces, providing a brief but detailed account of the creation of the structure and its completed finery, drawing on Gertrude Bell's musical translation of al-Tabari's description of the famous carpet "woven into the likeness of a garden" (*Amurath to Amurath*, second edition, London, 1924, p.180).

Other essays turn to the early twentieth century and contemporary life. The piece on Mandaicism, in addition to outlining its history, features a short interview with a group of Mandaeans from the Mesopotamian Marshes, in which they discuss their beliefs and religious practices. The final essay, by the missionary John Van Ess (the only contributor to give his full name), reflects on his time in Mesopotamia among certain rural tribes, highlighting episodes of kindness and hospitality. Van Ess (1878-1949) is notable for the

time he spent in Mesopotamia (nearly fifty years), his role as an advisor to British officials and, in that capacity, for his opposition to making Feisal King.

Rare. Library Hub locates two copies, at the National Library of Scotland and the British Library. OCLC finds just one more, at LMU Munich.



IRAN

A classic account of Iran

17 BROWNE (Edward Granville).
the Persians.

A Year Amongst

First edition. Folding map. 8vo. Original blue cloth, gilt lettering to spine and front cover; light wear to extremities, spine slightly darkened, front hinge cracked but holding firmly, overall near very good. Two small tape repairs to map, interior in excellent condition. ix, [1]blank, 594; [2]ads pp. London, Adam and Charles Black, 1893.

£750

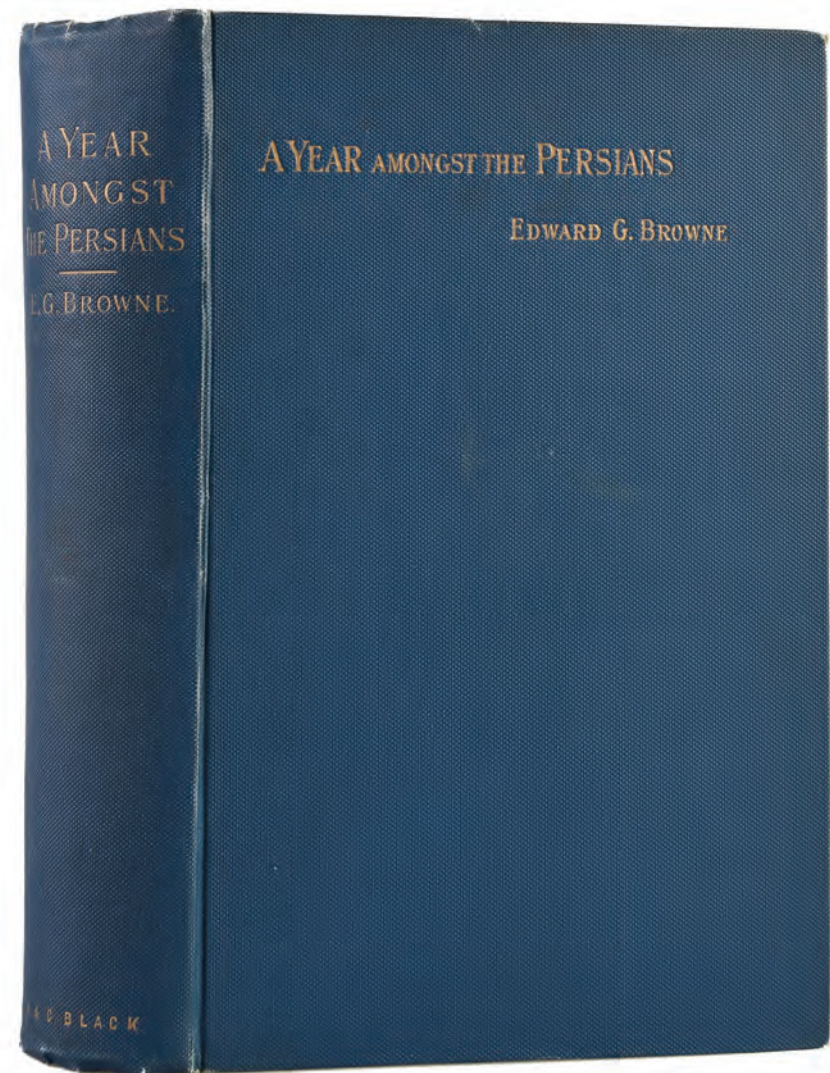
First edition of Browne's remarkable account of his year-long journey through Iran in 1887-88. It is celebrated not only for his intelligent and (for the time) tolerant description of the country and its people, but for providing "an infallible guide to modern Persian literature and thought" (Edward Denison Ross, from his introductory 'Memoir' to the 1926 edition).

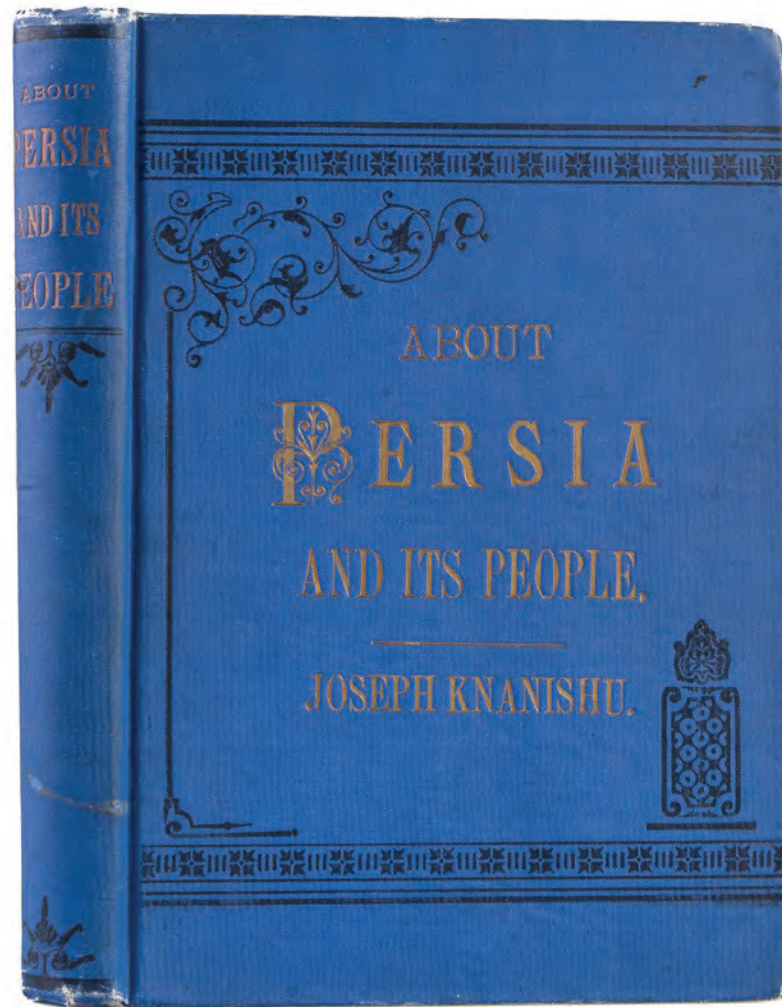
Browne's interest in the Islamic world was first piqued by the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78, which stirred his natural inclination toward the underdog and thus a fascination with Turkey. While at Cambridge he perused Eastern languages alongside his medical studies and discovered a gift for those tongues covered by the Indian Languages Tripos. Then followed an immersion in Sufi literature — a counterweight to the earthly suffering he found on hospital duty — and a fast-growing love of all things Persian. Failed applications to the consular service dampened his hopes of travelling to Iran, but his dream was revived on becoming a Fellow of his college in 1887.

A Year Amongst the Persians records his journey in great detail, featuring unfading portraits of several cities and towns, including Tabriz, Tehran (a ten-month stay), Isfahan, Shiraz, Yazd and

Kerman. While most chapters are devoted to individual locations, some interrupt the narrative to expand on Browne's interest in minority religions. Chapter VI, 'Mysticism, Metaphysics and Magic', gives an introduction to certain faiths and practices, and points toward his later research on Bábism.

Diba, p.246; Wilson, p.30.





Taken from lectures on Persia for American audiences

18 KNANISHU (Joseph). About Persia and its people. A description of their manners, customs, and home life, including engagements, marriages, modes of traveling, forms of punishment, superstitions, etc.

First edition. Two portrait frontispieces of the author and his family, and several other photographic illustrations. 8vo. Original blue cloth, gilt; extremities slightly rubbed, front free-endpaper reinserted, otherwise very good. 300pp. Rock Island, Ill., Lutheran Augustana Book Concern [for the author], 1899. **SOLD**

An unusual and very interesting publication on Persia (modern-day Iran). Knanishu was an Assyrian Christian from Western Persia, who emigrated to the United States, where he delivered lectures about his home country (focusing on the Christian population and mission work). Wanting to give fuller answers to the questions from his audiences, he decided to write the present book. It covers the marriage customs of Christian and Muslim communities, numerous aspects of social life, the Shah and his Court, Persian literature and history.

The provenance of this copy is suitably Persian-American with previous owners from both countries. It appears the book first belonged to Y. Shimon of Urmia, then Margaret O'Connell of Ohio, who gifted the book to the noted American collector John Brinton after reading his articles in *Aramco World Magazine*.

'PRINTED IN PERSIA'

19 RUST (Francis Marion). Evolution of Democracy.

Proof copy. Lithographed colour plate, half-tone photographic portrait frontispiece and 33 lithographed diagrams (14 colour) in the text. 8vo. Original half brown cloth over marbled paper-covered boards, boards professionally repaired, spine a little rubbed and sunned, otherwise good. Professional paper repairs to original endpapers. Stamp of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Library and deaccession stamp to front pastedown. Later stamp of A. Randle Elliott to front free-endpaper. Author's ms. signature to portrait frontispiece. Several manuscript and printed corrections; three bound-in slips with extensive printed additions. x, [3], 155, [2] blank pp. Tabriz, Printing press of the Armenian Dioces[sic] in Azerbaijan, 1923. **£950**

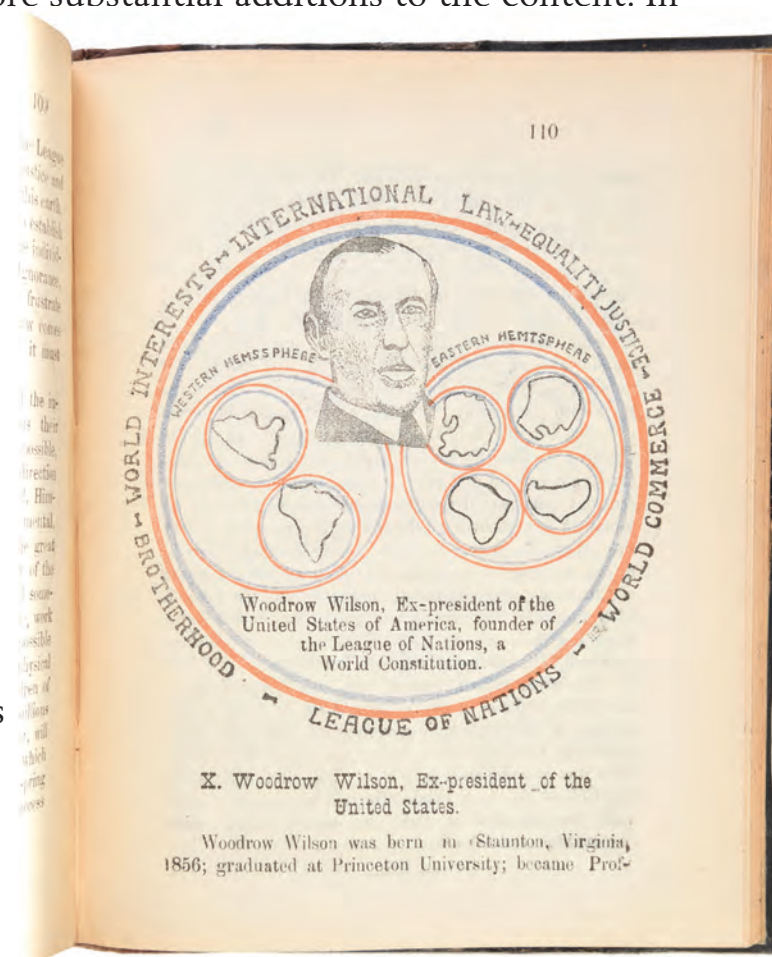
Francis Marion Rust was the Director of Near East Relief in Persia, where he and other members of the organisation aided Assyrian and Armenian Christian refugees fleeing Ottoman forces. While working in Tabriz, he oversaw the printing of this book, a bizarre treatise on the development of democracy in the West, its problems, and his vision for a united post-war world inspired by the League of Nations. **This copy is a proof, signed by Rust.**

Alongside his duties, Rust found time to publish *Evolution of Democracy*. As he was a schoolteacher before travelling to Persia, and the book was authorised by the Superintendent for Education in Azerbaijan, it's possible it served a didactic purpose in the orphanages and temporary schools of Tabriz. That being said, the text is eccentric and uneven. If an argument can be traced, it is Rust calling for larger systems of confederation, as a way of moving beyond the horrors of the First World War. He talks of a post-war "European nationality" (p.105) and, further down the line, the gathering together "into one fold all peoples of the world in government" (p.108).

Curiously, at no point does he apply his ideas to the situation in the Near and Middle East. This is possibly due to the complexity of the post-war political landscape and the difficulty of extending an already jumbled piece of writing. There is, however, a slip of printed additions between page 16 and 17, concerning the problems posed by receding Empires, which states "...the break up of the Old Russian Empire has all but resulted in wiping out two small national groups [the Armenians and Assyrians] in Asia." (p.16). It was after returning to America that Rust further examined his experiences in the Near East, submitting an MA thesis on the *Post War Problems of Turkey 1918-1925* (University of Louisville, 1932).

There are minor manuscript and printed corrections, additions and deletions to seven pages, possibly in Rust's hand. Whereas they do little to significantly alter the text, the three printed slips offer much more substantial additions to the content. In addition to signing this copy, Rust has updated the title page with the New York address of Near East Relief, and somewhat eccentrically, his personal addresses in city and country.

Rare in commerce, with no copies in auction records. Not found in the usual bibliographies of Persia.



20 TEMPORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE NATIONAL OIL CO. OF IRAN. Proclamation.

Printed broadside. Small folio. Old folds, several small tears to margins, ink stain to verso (partly showing through but not obscuring text). Abadan, The National Oil Co. of Iran, 25/6/[19]51.

SOLD

A fascinating broadside issued by the National Oil Company of Iran to the workers of what had been the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. The seven points, addressed to foreign and Iranian workers, express the need to continue working to the usual standards despite the changes brought about by nationalisation. Foreign staff are assured that their salaries will not be affected and that they will be considered "honourable colleagues" if they decide to stay in their posts, while those wanting to leave are guaranteed a safe departure.

The points directed solely to Iranian workers are full of hope, positivity and nationalist rhetoric, best summated by point 5: "Iranian staff and workers, who now serve under one flag, for acheiving[sic] their common national goal are required to to leave aside suspecion[sic] and all unpleasant memories and forget the past entirely. They must work together, with sincerely like brothers for the brilliant future of their country."

That future, however, was not to be, as the British Government pulled out all AIOC workers and began a brutal embargo of Iranian oil which led to growing economic pressure on the Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh and his party, the National Front. Recognising his weakened position and cautious of what politics might replace him, Britain (in tandem with the United States) enacted a coup d'état in August 1953, ousting the democratically elected Mosaddegh and restoring the power of the Shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

Seemingly unrecorded, with no copies in Library Hub or OCLC.

