

The World of Rare Books

By FREDERICK M. HOPKINS

SALE OF STANDISH LIBRARY

LIBRARY sets of standard authors, extra-illustrated works, first editions of sixteenth to nineteenth century English authors, mediaeval and modern illuminated manuscripts, many choice volumes in sumptuous bindings, together with some fine autograph letters and manuscripts, including the private library of the late Mrs. Hannah M. Standish of Pittsburgh, were sold at the American Art Galleries, March 3 and 4, 594 lots bringing the handsome total of \$88,656.

The three sessions were well attended by collectors and dealers, buying was well distributed, and competition, especially for the rarer lots, was very keen. The highest price, \$2,700, was paid for an extra-illustrated copy of Irving's "Life of Washington," large paper copy of the first edition, New York, 1855-59, 5 vols. extended to 15, by the addition of views, portraits and autograph letters and documents. Eight leaves from the Gutenberg Bible, with a bibliographical essay by A. Edward Newton, bound in levant, brought \$1,750.

Other important lots and the prices realized were the following:

Alken Colored Plates. *The Sporting Repository*, with colored plates by Henry Alken and others, 8vo, calf, London, 1822. Fine copy of this short-lived periodical. \$675.

Alken. Surtees's "Jorrock's Jaunts and Jollities," with colored plates by Henry Alken, 8vo, original green cloth, London, 1843, second edition but first with Alken plates. \$770.

"American Statesmen," first series, 32 vols., 8vo, morocco, Boston, 1898. Large paper, with an autograph letter or document of the subject of the biography inserted. \$1,300.

Audubon (J. J.). "Birds of America" and "Quadrupeds of North America," in 131 original parts, 1840-54. One of finest copies known, and extremely rare in this condition. \$1,050.

Binding. John Keats's "Poems," 2 vols., small 4to, London, 1904. In a magnificent binding by Reviere. \$600.

Boccaccio (Giovanni). "Il Decamerone," etc., 4to, morocco by Bozerian, Firenze, 1527. Robert Hoe copy. \$500.

Clemens (Samuel L.). "Writings," 37 vols., 8vo, levant, New York, 1922-23. Definitive edition. \$500.

Cruikshank. "German Popular Stories," collected by M. M. Grimm, and illustrated by George Cruikshank, 2 vols., levant by Reviere, London, 1823-26. First issue of the first edition. \$325.

Defoe (Daniel). "Robinson Crusoe," 2 vols., 8vo, original calf, London, 1719. Rare first edition. \$925.

Dickens (Charles). "Works," 60 vols., royal 8vo, levant, London, n. d. Extra-illustrated copy, extended from thirty volumes. \$850.

Franklin (Benjamin). A. L. S., 2 pp., 4to, Boston, September 5, 1763, to Joshua Babcock, chief justice of Rhode Island. \$430.

Heywood (John). "The Spider and the Flie," small 4to, morocco by Rodwell, London, 1556. Fine copy of the first edition. \$950.

Homer. "Iliad," folio, vellum, Florence, 1488. Large paper copy of the *editio princeps*. \$550.

Manuscript. The Sermon on the Mount, modern manuscript of 13 leaves, with miniatures, 4to, London, 1911. Executed by Alberto Sangorski shortly before his death.

Irving (Washington). "Works," 40

vols., 8vo, levant, New York, n. d. Joseph Jefferson edition. \$700.

Jonson (Ben). "Workes," 2 vols., folio, original calf, London, 1616-40. First collected edition. \$510.

Kipling (Rudyard). "Schoolboy Lyrics," 16mo, wrappers, Lahore, 1881. First edition of Kipling's first book. \$1,300.

Presidents of U. S. A complete collection of autograph letters signed, letters signed, and autograph documents signed of the presidents of the United States from Washington to Wilson neatly mounted and bound in a folio volume. \$900.

Scott (Sir Walter). "Waverley Novels," 51 vols., royal 8vo, autumn leaf levant, London, and New York, n. d. Extra-illustrated. \$800.

The Sporting Magazine, over 2,000 engraved plates, 156 vols., 8vo, half calf, London, 1792-1870. Fine complete set. \$1,125.

Surtees (Robert). "Sporting Novels," 5 vols., 8vo, all in original parts, in cases, London, 1853-65. \$1,525.

Symonds (John Addington). "Works," 68 vols., 8vo and 12mo, three-quarters levant, London, Oxford and Bristol, 1857-1902. First editions. \$900.

SALE OF DROUET LETTERS

THE report comes from Paris of the sale at public auction of the letters written by Juliette Drouet to Victor Hugo, numbering, it is said, many thousands. This actress, whom Hugo loved, retired from the stage and lived a life of seclusion for fifty years. Almost every day during that period she wrote the famous author a letter, as he had asked her to do, although they were seeing each other regularly as well, and this collection was carefully preserved. Victor Hugo spoke of these letters in one of his letters to Juliette, in which he said: "Our life is there, recorded day by day, thought by thought. Every dream of thine, every suffering, is there. The letters are so many charming

little mirrors, each one of which reflects a view of thy splendid self." This collection of letters associated with the memory of one of the greatest French authors, unique in literary history, brought \$700. If they had been offered in New York, beyond a doubt they would have brought many times this figure.

GIFT OF RARE BOOKS TO YALE

A COLLECTION of rare editions of thirty-five seventeenth century English poets recently given to the Widener Library at Harvard is now on exhibition in the Treasure Room. The gift was made in memory of Lionel de Jersey, Harvard '15, a lineal descendant of John Harvard, who was killed in action at Boisieux-au-Mont on March 30, 1918. The donor has requested that his name be withheld. The poets represented includes John Cleveland, Abraham Cowley, Thomas Stanley, Sir John Suckling, Sir John Taylor, George Wither, Francis Quarles, Henry Vaughan, Samuel Daniel, Michael Drayton, John Davies, John Taylor, the Water-Poet; Giles Fletcher, the younger; Sir William Davenant, James Harrington, Richard Crawshaw, Sir John Denham, Francis Hubert, Robert Anton, Thomas Nabbes, George Buck, John Hepwith, Samuel Rowlands, Nicholas Hooker, Alexander Rosse, Thomas Carew, Robert Stapleton, Joseph Hall, Richard Lovelace, Ben Jonson, George Chapman, Richard Flecknoe, and Nicholas Breton.

NOTE AND COMMENT

FORMER Premier Venizelos of Greece has finished his translation into modern Greek of Thucydides's "History of the Peloponnesian War." A prologue, a commentary upon the text and a political disquisition will complete this work of fifteen volumes. The work will be unique, because never has a practical statesman commented upon the work of the greatest and most difficult Greek historian.

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