

Michael Pyron, Bookseller, ABAA/ILAB
Fine and Antiquarian Books

Chapbooks

A short list of English chapbooks from the 18th and 19th century

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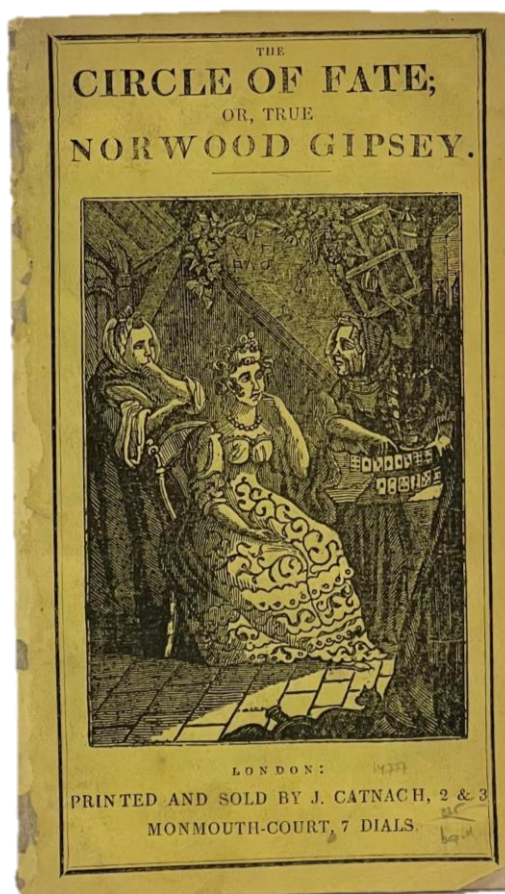
1) [Bewick, Thomas]. [*The Child's Instructor, or Picture Alphabet*](#). Glasgow: Lumsden & Son | printed by Hedderwick, c. 1815. 32mo. [32] pp., illus. As issued, in pink, self-wrappers with first and last leaves pasted to the wrapper; the title page occupies the verso of the blank front wrapper. Early title in manuscript on the front wrapper; light soiling and wear to the wrappers, but a remarkably nice copy of a scarce book.

A beautifully illustrated chapbook with 27 oval cuts, some of which, according to Hugo, are "clearly by Thomas Bewick." Additional printer's device at the end. The volume is undated, but *Osborne Collection* and Meriton in *Small Books for the Common Man* generally agree and place this c. 1812-1815. *Osborne Collection* p. 700. Meriton 186; Hugo, *Bewick Collector* 313; Cotsen B, 1164.

\$250

2) [Catnach, J. (publisher)]. [*The Everlasting Circle of Fate: A New and Ingenious Mode of Telling Fortunes*](#) [Cover Title: *The Circle of Fate; or, The Norwood Gipsy*]. London: J. Catnach, c. 1825. Small octavo. [8] pp., illus. In publisher's printed wrappers. Removed from binding with only minor abrading to the spine; leaves are beginning to separate. small chip to the bottom corner of the front wrappers; foxing.

Directions for telling fortunes from the lines in the hand, tea or coffee grounds, nails, and cards. There are also instructions to choose a husband by the hair, how to make the dumb cake, to know if an infant will live or not, to know the trade your husband will take up and more. Large wood-engraving on the front wrapper as well as a hand-colored vignette on the title page. Four additional in-text engravings. The Cotsen Cataloguer had dated the volume from the publisher's address (see Brown, *London Publishers*, p. 34). This may be a variant of the Cotsen copy which is bound in publisher's wrappers "with text continuing on the rear wrapper." While the outside of the rear wrapper matches the Cotsen, there is no text continuing on the inside, nor is there need as the work complete on p. [8]. Rare in commerce. Only two institutions record ownership of this edition according to OCLC. Cotsen B, 1966.



Item #2

\$200

3) [Fordyce, W. & T. (publisher)]. [*Remarkable & Memorable History of Sir Robt. Bewick and the Laird Graham . . . Also, the Berkshire Lady's Garland*](#). Newcastle and Hull: W. & T. Fordyce,

[1832-1840]. 12mo. 24 pp., illus. As issued, in self-wrappers. This copy folded, untrimmed and unopened. Very light soiling and toning to the outer leaves; a very well-preserved copy.

Frequently reissued, this copy comports with the University of Oxford copy (OCLC: 863314244). The Oxford cataloguer notes that the date range "derived from Hunt, C.J. *The Book Trade in Northumberland and Durham to 1860* (1975)." Title page illustration of Bewick's and Graham's sons fighting. Several embellishments throughout. Uncommon chapbook, all the more so in its unopened and untrimmed format.

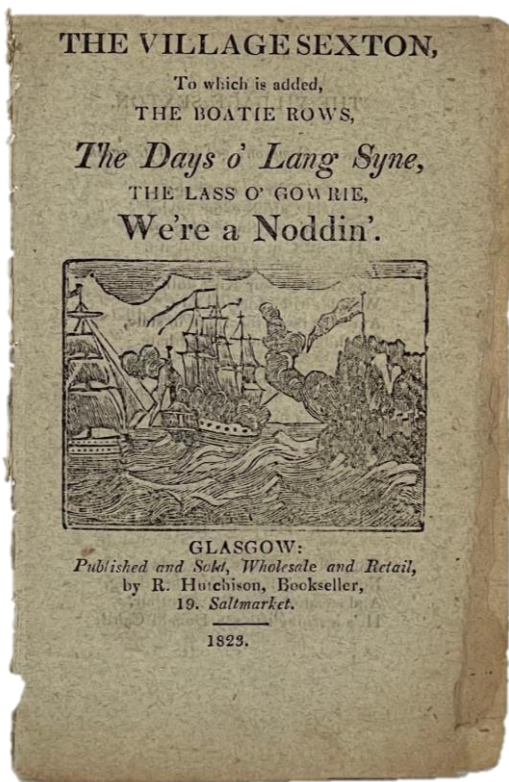
\$75

4) [Howard & Evans (publishers)]. [*The Life and Death of Tom Careless: to which is Added the History of Will Worthy and Nancy Wilmot; Giving an Account of the Sudden Death of Nancy Wilmot, as she was Dancing with Will Worthy on the Green, on the Evening of the Day they were Married*](#).... London: Howard & Evans; sold also by J. Burditt, c. 1805-1811?. 12mo. 8 pp., illus. Issued in self-wrappers, this copy removed from a binding with only minimal evidence; light toning but generally quite a nice copy.

Two "improving" stories in verse. The first presents us with the young carpenter, Tom, who's "tongue mov'd faster than his hands" and who was given to drink and other merry diversions. As he faced a sudden death he realized how'd he'd squandered his life. This realization is related to

companion with his parting breath. The next tale finds Will a widower on the day of wedding. Much anguish and soul searching, Will finds mercy in prayer. Title page woodcut of Will holding Nancy's hand as her lifeless body lies in bed. Undated, but given the information related to publisher and bookseller by the *British Book Trade Index*, it is likely that this was printed sometime in the first decade of the 19th century--the three institutions reporting ownership in OCLC suggest the same. *19th Century Short Title Catalogue* offers "1820?" NSTC 2C6946.

\$85



5) [Hutchinson, R. (publisher)]. [*The Village Sexton, to which is Added, The Boatie Rows, The Days o' Lang Syne, The Lass o' Gowrie, We're a Noddin'*](#). Glasgow: R. Hutchison, Bookseller, 1823. 12mo. 8 pp., illus. Removed from binding. Generally well-preserved copy of this chapbook of song lyrics with a seemingly completely unrelated woodcut vignette on the title page depicting what appears to be a naval battle. NTSC 2V4258.

\$45

6) [Kendrew, J. (publisher)] [Johnson, Richard]. [*The Foundling; or, the History of Lucius Stanhope*](#). York: J. Kendrew, c. 1825. 32mo. 31, [1] pp., frontis, illus. As issued, in wrappers with first and last leaves pasted to the wrappers. This copy removed from binding, but retaining the original wrappers. Quite a nice copy with minimal evidence of it having been bound and removed.

Tale of a poor but virtuous foundling who studies hard at Oxford and makes good, in sharp contrast to the proud sone of the noble family that took him in. The popular tale is illustrated with a frontispiece and 8 more in-text vignettes in addition to an engraved embellishment on the front wrapper. This from the children's book collection of Albert A. Howard, *sans indicia*. Davis, *Kendrew of York*, 21; *Osborne Collection*, p. 254; Meriton 705.

\$125

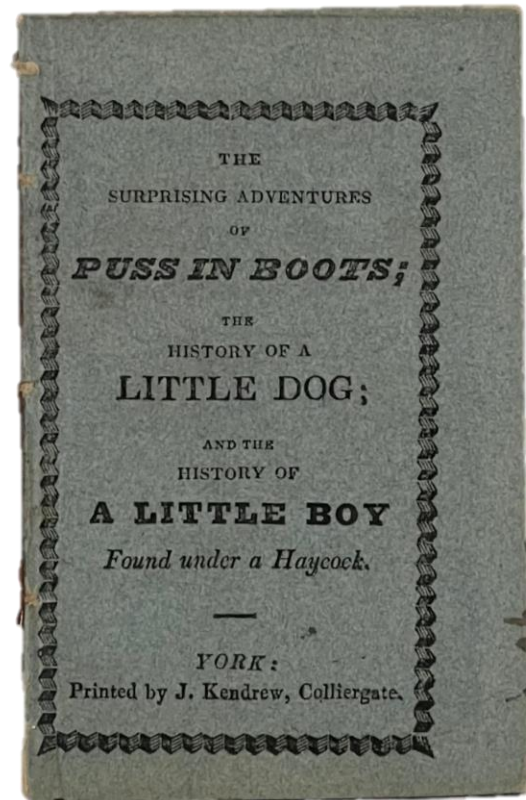
7) [Kendrew, J. (publisher)] [Perrault, Charles] [Johnson, Richard]. [*The Surprising Adventures of Puss in Boots; The History of Little Dog; and the History of a Little Boy Found Under a Haycock*](#). York: J. Kendrew, c. 1825. 32mo. 31, [1] pp., frontis, illus. As issued, in wrappers with first and last leaves pasted to the wrappers. This copy removed from binding, but retaining the original wrappers. Quite a nice copy with minimal evidence of it having been bound and removed.

An uncommon toybook from a publisher known for them. The Kendrew "Penny Book" opens with an alphabet and a retelling of Perrault's classic fairy tale followed by two other stories. Illustrated with a frontispiece and 10 more in-text vignettes. This from the children's book collection of Albert A. Howard, *sans indicia*. Davis, *Kendrew of York*, 50; Meriton 711.

\$125

8) [Lee, James (illustrator)]. [*Proverbs of Little Solomon. Containing Entertaining Stories, from the Following Wise Sayings....*](#) Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd, c. 1808. 32mo. 31, [1] pp., frontis., illus. As issued, in wrappers with first and last leaves pasted to the wrappers. Wrappers are a trifle soiled, but generally, a very good copy.

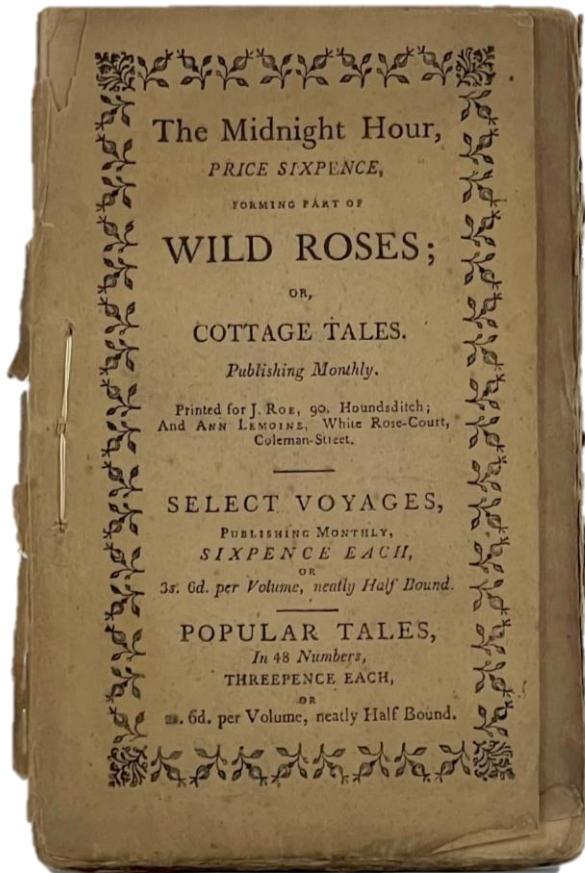
This three-penny chapbook is comprised of six 16th- and 17th-century proverbs with morals and is illustrated with 8 wood engravings in the Bewick manner by various hands, though three are signed "Lee," and the Cotsen cataloger attributes them to James Lee. Although the work is undated, the Scottish Book Trade Index in the National Library of Scotland shows that Oliver & Boyd's years of activity at the Netherbow address were 1808 through 1809. The Cotsen Collection copy notes that the wrappers are adorned by a vignette of a fruit bowl. This copy in variant wrappers with



Item #7

birds and laurel branch device. This from the children's book collection of Albert A. Howard, *sans indicia*. Rare in commerce with scarcely over a half dozen North American institutions reporting ownership according to OCLC. *Osborne Collection*, p. 291; Cotsen B, 4808; Meriton 133.

\$200



Item #9

9) [Lemoine, Ann (publisher)]. [*The Midnight Hour; or, The Fatal Friendship. A Simple Tale. Forming Part of Wild Roses' or Cottage Tales.*](#) Publishing Monthly. London: Ann Lemoine and J. Roe | printed by T. Maiden, 1808. Small 12mo. 60 pp., frontis. As issued, stitched in printed wrappers; an unopened copy. Wrappers are chipped; original stitching is gone and has been tastefully replaced; light toning, but a solid copy.

Little is known about Lemoine beyond her association with publishing gothic chapbooks, principally in anthologies as here, and her marriage to and divorced of bookseller and publisher, Henry Lemoine to whom Ann maintained a productive business relationship for nearly 20 years. As a prolific publisher of chapbooks, she was remarkably successful. In his study of early 19th century gothic chapbooks, Franz Potter writes, "It is Lemoine's pivotal role in the development of the gothic chapbooks that makes her particularly intriguing. She not only remodeled both the traditional design of the chapbook; she was adroit at anticipating and responding to the shifting interests of the reading public..." (p. 52). The two-volume *Wild Roses* was, published between 1808 and 1809 and contained 12 tales of which this is one.

Remarkably uncommon with only 3 institutional copies located according to OCLC; no copies in the United States. Potter, Franz. *Gothic Chapbooks, Bluebooks and Shilling Shockers, 1797-1830*. pp. 51-69.

\$175

10) [Lemoine, Ann (publisher)]. [*The Cottager's Daughter: or, The Sorrows of Rosa. A Pathetic Tale. \[with\] Anecdote of the Late Countess of Exeter, who Died in Nov. 1796*](#) (From the Tell-Tale series). London: J. Roe and Anne (sic) Lemoine | Lemoine, printer, 1803. Small 12mo. 33, [3] pp., frontis. As issued, stitched in printed wrappers. Wrappers soiled and toned with light edgewear; contents with minor toning; generally, a well-preserved copy.

The *Tell-Tale*, published between 1803 and 1805, was not her first anthology, but constitutes the beginning of her most productive period. The anthology comprised 48 tales in 6 volumes and could

be purchased bound or in individual issues. The publication date noted in this description is from the frontispiece, but we presume these were frequently reprinted as the wrappers here advertise Lemoine's and Roe's series that were not issued until later in the decade despite the earlier publication dates.

Though not noted on the title page, the final pages of text comprise "Anecdote of the Late Countess of Exeter, who Died in Nov. 1796." The final leaf is the cumulative title page for Volume I of *The Tell-Tale: or, Universal Museum*. Complete runs are incredibly rare, only a handful of institutions hold bound sets of the 48 works. Even individual issues are institutionally uncommon and rare in commerce. This issue held by five institutions according to OCLC. There appears to be a couple issue of this work, one noting the printer as T[homas] Maiden and this issue which notes on the last page and the verso of the cumulative title page: "Lemoine, Printer. / Chiswell-street, London." In addition to the titles of each there are running headers: "Tale 12" and "13," respectively. Potter, Franz. *Gothic Chapbooks, Bluebooks and Shilling Shockers, 1797-1830*. pp. 51-69.

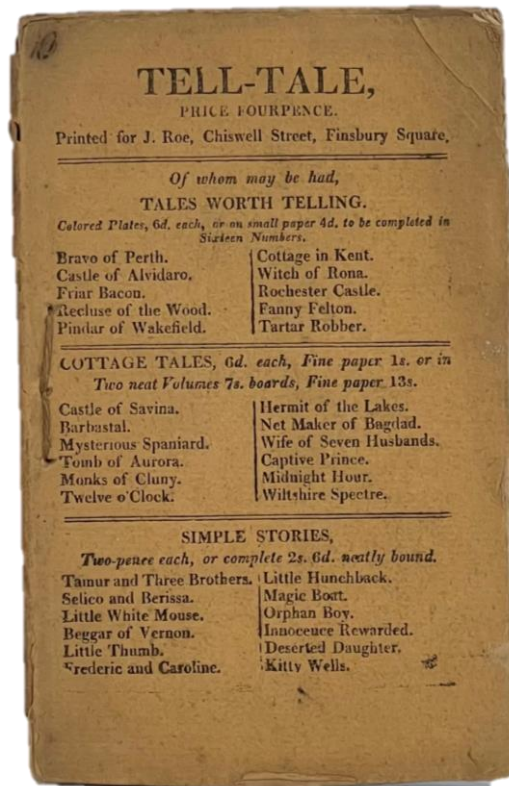
\$175

11) [Lemoine, Ann (publisher)] Wilkinson, Sarah. [*The Wife of Two Husbands: or, Fritz, the Outlaw. An Interesting Tale. \[with\] The Natural Son. \(From the Tell-Tale series\)*](#). London: J. Roe and Anne (sic) Lemoine | Lemoine, printer, 1804. Small 12mo. 36 pp., frontis. As issued, stitched in printed wrappers. Wrappers soiled and toned with light edgewear; contents with minor toning; generally, a well-preserved copy.

Wilkinson was a prolific author of chapbooks, many following a theme of women falling prey to philandering men. Perhaps her most notable publication was *The History of Crazy Jane* which was frequently reprinted. This present title is of the same genre.

Though not noted on the title page, the final five pages of text comprise "The Natural Son." This issue held by six institutions according to OCLC. There appears to be a couple issues of this work, one noting the printer as T[homas] Maiden and this issue which notes on the verso of the title page: "Lemoine, Printer. / Chiswell-street, London." In addition to the title there are running headers: "Tale 17" and "18," respectively. Potter, Franz. *Gothic Chapbooks, Bluebooks and Shilling Shockers, 1797-1830*. pp. 51-69. *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.

\$175

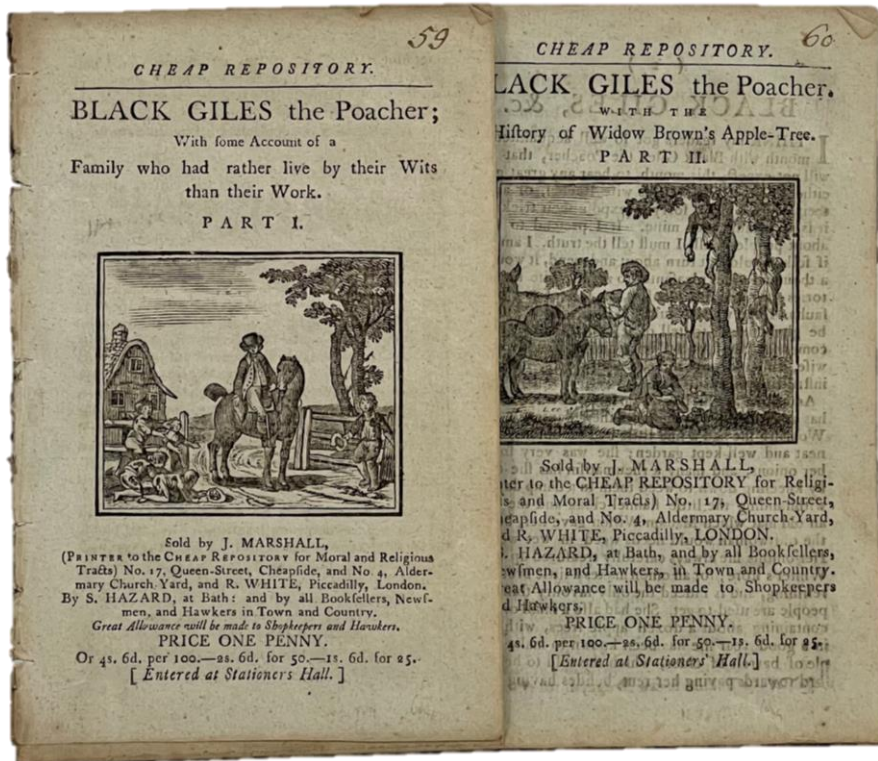


Item #11

12) [More, Hannah]. [Cheap Repository] [*Black Giles the Poacher. Part I: With some Account of the Family who had rather Live by their Wits than their Work \[and\] Part II: With the History of Widow Brown's Apple-Tree.*](#) London / Bath: Sold by J. Marshall, R. White, and S. Hazard, [1796]. Small octavos. 16; 16 pp., illus. Removed from binding. Manuscript number "59" & "60" respectively, in early ink at the top of the title page otherwise clean and well-preserved copies. Each part with title page vignette as well as an additional in-text engraving in Part I.

Conceived of and largely authored by Hannah More the Cheap Repository Tracts were designed to compete with the "immoral" chapbooks that circulated among the poor and working classes of London. Spinney, in his oft-cited article and bibliography writes: "To this end a number of 'moral tales' and ballads--over fifty of them from the lively pen of Hannah More--were decked out with rakish titles and woodcuts in the guise of the genuine chapman's pennyworth, and sent out, like sheep in wolves' clothing, to be sold by hawkers in competition with their 'old trash'" (p. 295). These tracts were wildly successful. Over the few short years Marshall and More were in business together, issuing just over a hundred tracts, several million were sold. A remarkable number for

an 18th century publication! What is more remarkable is their relative dearth in the modern marketplace. More authored about half of the output, signing them "Z" at the end; she engaged friends and in some cases her sister to contribute others. More and Marshall's relationship was stormy, perhaps contributing to the short life-span of such a successful endeavor. Spinney, G. H. "Cheap Repository Tracts: Hazard and Marshall Edition." *The Library*, Vol XX, No. 3, Dec. 1939. Spinney 77 & 81.



Item #12

\$250

13) [More, Hannah]. [Cheap Repository] [*Turn the Carpet; or, the Two Weavers: A New Song, in a Dialogue between Dick and John.*](#) London / Bath: Sold by J. Marshall, R. White, and S. Hazard, [1796]. Small octavo. 7, [1 (ads)] pp., illus. Removed from binding. Manuscript number "68" in early ink at the top of the title page otherwise clean and a well-preserved copy. Illustrated with two woodcuts: a title page vignette of Dick and John at their loom and a tail-piece at the end of the song depicts the patterned carpet.

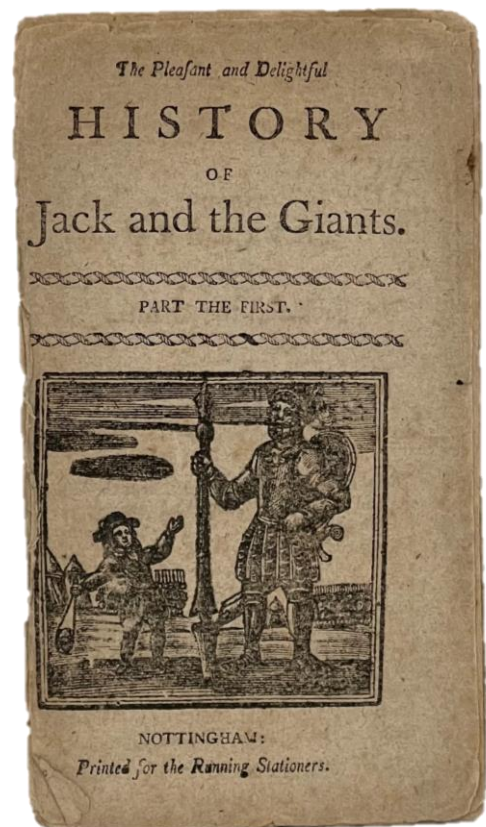
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\$150

14) [Nottingham Chapbook]. [*The Pleasant and Delightful History of Jack and the Giants. Part the First.*](#) Nottingham: Printed for the Running Stationers, c. 1796-1800. 12mo. 12 pp., illus. As issued, in self-wrappers. Wear to the spine and the first and last leaves are separated; otherwise, light wear; toned throughout. Nevertheless, a reasonably well-preserved copy of a fragile chapbook.

This is the first of two parts containing quite an early retelling of the classic fairy tale set in Arthur's England. Jack and the Giants didn't appear in print until early in the 18th century though it is referenced in passing much earlier including Shakespeare's *Tempest* (Act IV, Scene I). While undated, references consulted generally place this in the last decade of the 18th century. Illustrated by 5 in-text woodcuts. Quite uncommon in commerce. Meriton 534; *Osborne Collection* p. 603; ESTC T68132.

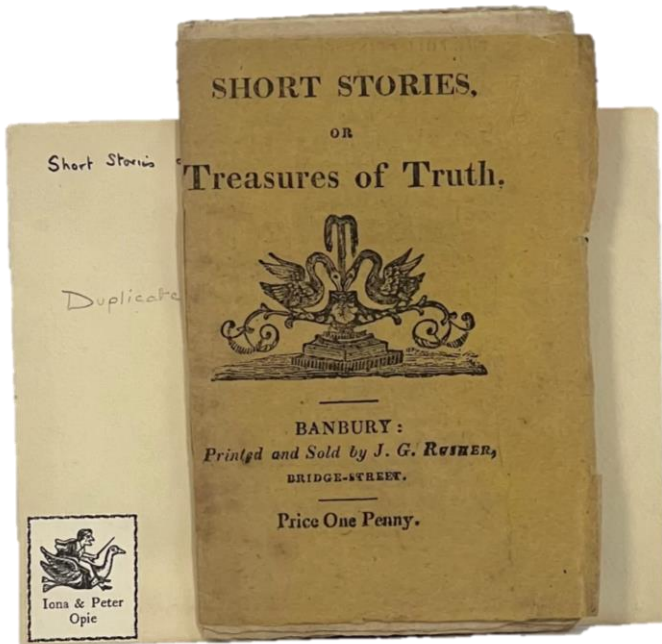
\$200



Item #14

15) [Opie, Iona and Peter]. [*Short Stories, or Treasures of Truth, Selected for Youthful Minds.*](#) Banbury, [Oxfordshire]: J. G. Rusher, c. 1830. 32mo. 16 pp., illus. Rusher's edition. As issued, sewn in printed wrappers. Untrimmed copy. Remarkable condition with only light shelfwear and toning.

"Short Stories like these / Are printed to please / The best of the girls and the boys . . . For books are much better than toys." Farm life, domestic animals, and conduct of life are the themes of this



Item #15

Banbury-printed chapbook for children. Illustrated with a frontispiece and 13 additional engravings including "Throwing the spear," "The wood-cutter," "The blind fidler" [*sic*], "Travelling to market," "Teasing a poor ass," and more. Three additional engravings embellish the wrappers. Inside rear wrapper with bookseller's list of title with prices. This from the collection of noted nursery rhyme bibliographers Iona & Peter Opie, with their book label on the envelope housing it; more recently from the children's book collection of Albert A. Howard, *sans indicia*. *Osborne Collection*, p. 939; Merton 25. Cotsen B, 5264. \$250

16) [Paisley, Scotland Chapbook]. [Elegy on Jamie Gemmill, Tailor](#). [Paisley, Scotland?]: c. 1820?. 12mo. 7, [1] pp., illus. As issued, in self-wrappers; this copy removed from binding, though with minor evidence at the binding edge; a very fresh copy. Neat inscription on the title page: "John Andrews, Paisley."

Woodcut title vignette of a group of ladies and gentlemen surrounding a corpse in an open coffin. An elegy in Scottish dialect for a fine tailor and a hard drinker: For Jamie weel could use the thumle, / An' was wi' needle aye fu' nimle, / An' ne'er about the price wad grumle / O' ony job, / But aff wad drink until he tumle / Clean aff the broad." The final page offers a "Per Contra" claming, "Jamie Gemmill yet is leevin" with a note on where you can find him to buy him a drink! While undated, The National Library of Scotland posits a date circa 1820. We have drawn our speculation on publication information from that source. NSTC 2G4358.

\$95

17) [Rose, Philip (publisher)]. [Abecedary] [The Good Child's Book of Pictures](#). Bristol, [Gloucestershire]: Philip Rose, c. 1813-1820?. 32mo. 15, [1] pp., illus. As issued, in plain wrappers with first and last leaves pasted to the wrappers. Light chipping to the wrappers but generally in very nice condition.

Beautiful picture dictionary, containing two engraved illustrations per page, each in an oval with border and with single word descriptor, one for each letter of the alphabet. This copy with the previous owner name of Bertha A. Holbrook on the title page followed by "40," as well as a number on the top corner of the frontispiece. Surely this is the same Holbrook who authored several abecedaries and children's books. The work is undated, but Rose was active at this address in Bristol between as late as 1849, but a study of Hyett and Bazeley's *Bibliographer's Manual of*

Gloucestershire Literature suggests that the imprint and address was more typical prior to 1832. This information together with an assessment of the chapbook suggest a date between 1813-1820 is more likely. Rare. We've be unable to locate any institutional holdings noted in OCLC or NTSC. It evades the expected reference works and we've found no auction or sales records.

\$300

18) [Walker, W. (publisher)]. [*The Diverting History of Jumping Joan, and her Dog and Cat*](#). Otley, [Yorkshire]: W. Walker, at the Wharfdale Stanhope Press, 18--?. 4" x 2.5." 15, [1] pp., frontis, illus. As issued, in wrappers with first and last leaves pasted to the wrappers; single-stitch sewing renewed.

Cataloguer of the Cotsen Collection infers a publication date of 1813-1820 "from the binding of chapbook and *British Book Trade Index*" Cotsen 1777. This present edition varies from the Cotsen copy in that that price noted on the cover is "Price One Penny" whereas the Cotsen copy is priced "One Halfpenny." Certainly, a later imprint. In pencil below the imprint is a date of "1850," though likely earlier than that. Only four institutions are recording ownership according to OCLC; though we know of two others (Oxford and Toronto Public). Rare. This from the children's book collection of Albert A. Howard, *sans indicia*.

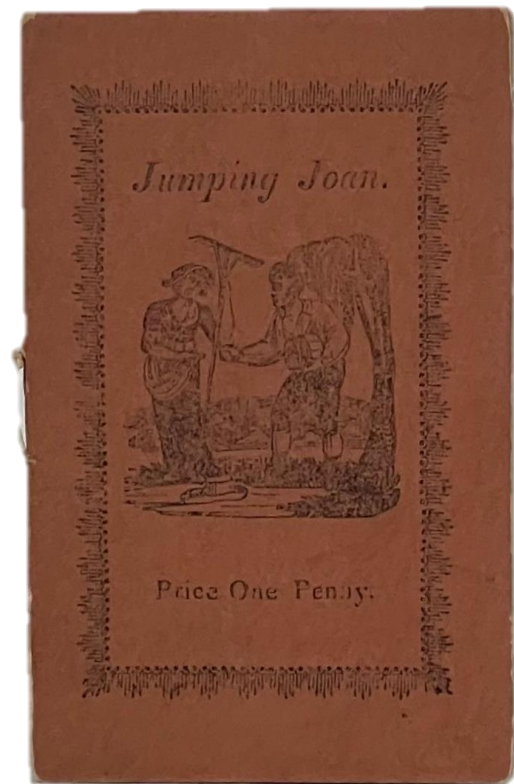
\$350

19) [Walker, William R. (publisher)]. [*Cork Leg Songster*](#). Newcastle-on-Tyne: William R. Walker, (1860?). 12mo. 24 pp., illus. Removed from binding. Title page detached but present; light wear. An inexpensively printed pamphlet sloppily printed with uneven inking including some imprinting from the printing forms; an additional level of carelessness includes mistakes in composition with two pages reversed such that a large portion of one of the songs,

"The Exciseman Outwitted" is out of place and stands in seemingly as a second verse of "The Daughter of Israel," incongruously reading: "I weep, land of Judah, for thee. [/] Yours hogs to a fine market you've brought...." Both songs are complete, just jumbled.

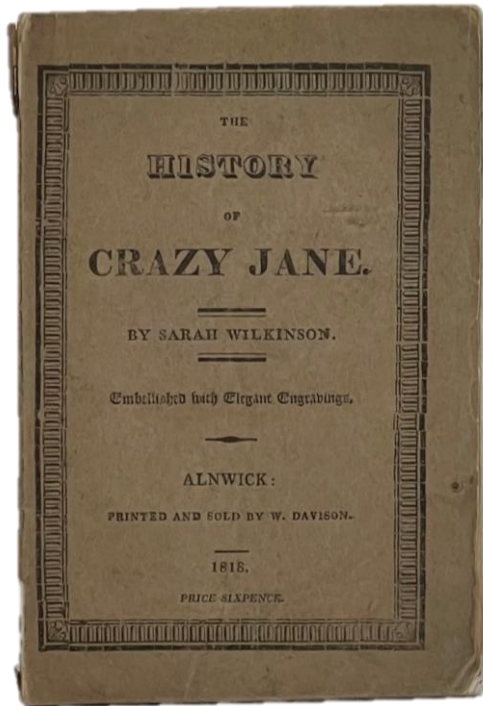
An uncommon chapbook of popular songs featuring a wonderful title page woodcut of a skeleton roaming strolling through the countryside with one bony leg and on cork prosthesis. This songster is seldom seen outside the U.K.—Princeton being the only North American institution holding copies of any imprint. NTSC 2C37950.

\$50



Item #18

20) Wilkinson, Sarah | illustrated by Thomas Bewick. [*The History of Crazy Jane*](#). Alnwick: W. Davison, 1818. 16mo. 40 pp., frontis, illus. As issued, stitched in publisher's printed wrappers. Spine and extremities rubbed; faint traces of old adhesive residue to recto of the frontispiece and to the last text page; light toning and minor foxing.



Item #20

Wilkinson was a prolific author of chapbooks, many following a theme of women falling prey to philandering men, as here. This is an early illustrated chapbook printing of Wilkinson's oft printed cautionary tale in which Henry Percival, seducer and deceiver, overcomes the virtue of Jane Arnold by pretending that his father will not let them marry because Jane has no fortune. He then abandons her, departing first for London and later for the West Indies. Jane goes mad with grief and dies; Henry returns from the West Indies a shadow of his former self, having encountered the ghost of Jane, and ends up committing suicide. In addition to three plates and a title page vignette, this early printing features a remarkably fine frontispiece by Bewick of Jane wandering in the woods. This from the children's book collection of Albert A. Howard, with his small book label at the rear. Hugo 276.

\$175

21) [Wilmot, John] and Isaac Watts. [*The Repentance and Happy Death, of the Celebrated Earl of Rochester. To which is Added, Some Suitable Verses on the Occurrence by Dr. Isaac Watts*](#). Nottingham: Printed by Sutton and Son, Review Office, 1814. 16mo. 8 pp., illus. As issued, in self-wrappers. This copy folded, untrimmed and unopened. Light toning, but a beautifully fresh copy of the Nottinghamshire chapbook. Woodcut on the title page of St. Mark as well as an attractive embellishment of an angel with a banner reading "finis." From the chapbook collection Albert A. Howard, sans indicia. NSTC W2221.

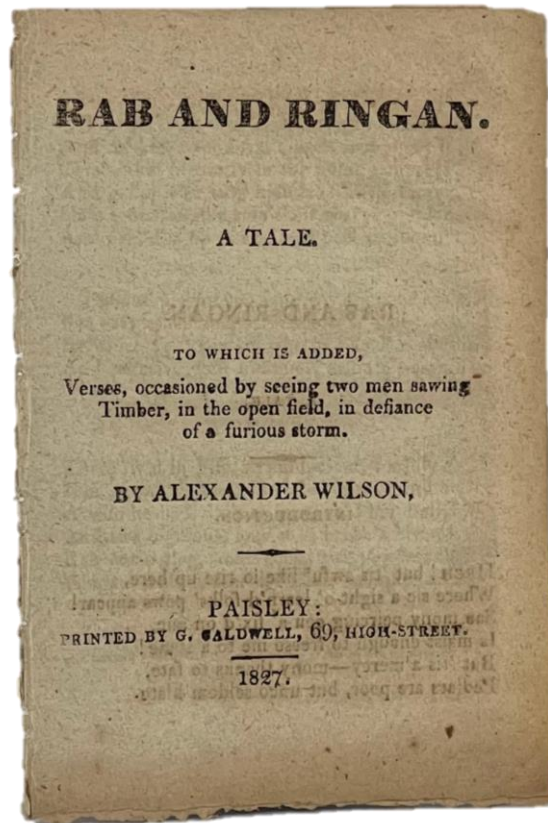
\$60

22) Wilson, Alexander. [*Rab and Ringan. A Tale. To which is Added Verses, Occasioned by Seeing Two Men Sawing Timber, in the Open Field, in Defiance of a Furious Storm*](#). Paisley, (Scotland): G. Caldwell, 1827. 16mo. 8 pp. Removed from binding. Light toning, else a very nice, well-preserved copy. A fantastic chapbook by Wilson who is most certainly known for his monumental work, *American Ornithology* (Philadelphia: 1808-1814).

Originally published Glasgow in 1796, this posthumous Scotland imprint was printed in Paisley, Wilson's birthplace. The story is about two brothers from Fife who both go to college. The "spruce" and popular Rab gets swollen-headed and drops his native Scots dialect: "he ca'd the Kirk the Church, the yirth, the Globe / And chang'd his name, forsooth, frae Rab to Bob." Rab becomes a gambler and a drunkard while the slower, less confident Ringan applies himself to his books and

becomes a minister. The moral of this tale: "That youthfu' diffidence is certain gain." The tale is followed by the wonderfully wild and energetic pleas to two young men to stop trying to saw lumber in the middle of a violent storm. NSTC 2W24752.

\$75



Item #22