
First edition complete with all 30 copperplate engravings of the gardens at Stow[e]. Page size: 3-7/8 x 6-½ inches; 67pp. + 3 pp. ads for other books printed for George Bickham. Bound: brown calf with paneled spine, lacking label on second panel, double gilt rule along all edges of front and back panel, early ownership signatures on front pastedown, front cover detached, pages a bit sunned and brittle but no foxing at all, leaf F3 with ½ inch tear at fore edge, housed in marbled paper over boards slipcase with title printed on brown leather label (probably originally on spine). A quite good copy of an extremely scarce book. American Book Prices Current shows no copies of this 1750 edition being sold at auction; only the 1753 edition is listed with appearances in 2006 and 2003. OCLC lists only 13 copies of this first edition.

Stowe Gardens is considered one of the most remarkable creations of Georgian England. It has evolved from an English Baroque garden into a pioneering landscape park, now part of the National Trust. The handsome engravings in THE BEAUTIES OF STOW illustrate the garden’s famous buildings by John Vanburgh, William Kent, and James Gibbs and pastoral views designed by gardeners Charles Bridgeman followed by Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown. (10626)

2. Emerson, Peter Henry. *Marsh Leaves with Sixteen Photo-Etchings from Plates Taken by the Author.* London: David Nutt in The Strand, 1895. $10,500

First edition, one of 300 copies. Page size: 7-1/8 x 11-¼ inches; 165pp. + 16 original photogravures each with printed tissue guards. Bound: original publisher’s white pictorial cloth printed in black with black sheep spine, title, author, and publisher stamped in gold gilt on spine, black ribbon marker, spine rubbed, covers soiled as are top and fore edges, corners bumped, pages a bit age toned at top edge but no spotting or foxing and the images clean and beautiful on vellum paper, a quite collectable copy of a key book in early photography.

P. H. Emerson (1856-1936), born in Cuba to an American father and British mother, earned a medical degree at Clare College, Cambridge. A keen ornithologist, he bought his first camera to be used as a tool on bird-watching trips. He was involved in the formation of the Camera Club of London and soon after abandoned his career as a surgeon to become a photographer and writer. Influenced by naturalistic French painting, his books reflect this regard for the outdoors. His first album of photographs was published in 1886 and he followed this with seven more books of photographs. MARSH LEAVES, the last of the East Anglian fenlands series, is considered his best. Emerson printed the photographs himself, using photogravure.

In THE TRUTHFUL LENS, exhibition catalogue and key survey published The Grolier Club, Emerson’s images are described thus, “These studies of softly rendered details from nature are ‘THE CULMINATION OF EMERSON’S ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT’ (Grolier). ‘Certainly, the 16 photo-etchings take his art to where it could probably go no further, and as a fusion of text and imagery the book is entirely successful... It is one of the most beautiful books about isolation and solitude, perhaps death, ever made, and Emerson’s spare, evocative pictures were seldom equalled by the later Pictorialists’ (The Photobook). Grolier, The Truthful Lens 54; The Photobook, Vol. I, p.72. (10628)


First edition, complete with 2 engraved portraits of John Radcliffe and James Gibbs by Fourdriner after Kneller, and 21 engraved plates of the building. Folio, 12pp; +23 plates, handsomely rebound in ¾ tan calf and marbled paper over boards, blind tooling at foreedge and tips in tiny floral swag, red morocco label on front panel with title and author and date gilt stamped within rule of same floral swag, here tooled in gilt; early ownership signature on titlepage, ex-library with faint round stamp on title page about
Triangular House Designs

4. Jacobsen, Theodore. Plans, elevation and section of a triangular house. London: ca. 1740. $6,000
Four engraved plates by Fourdrinier, the elevation and section plan (plates 1 and 2 and 3) measuring 14-⅜ x 20-¾ inches, plate 4, a slightly smaller plan measures 14-⅜ x 20 inches; The section plate has two old repaired marginal tears and is rumpled on left edge, there are some frayed edges on the other plates, however all impressions are clean with large margins, housed in archival folders and all four in grey archival library box. Three of the plates have captions in English and Italian. The fourth plate, the design of East India House, among other important London buildings. He seems to have been responsible for many public buildings over a thirty year period. His designs were executed by professional surveyors and builders.

The triangular house designs may have been inspired by the remodelling of Longford Castle (starting 1737) for Sir Jacob Bouverie, a Vice-President of the Foundling Hospital in 1740-41 for whom the 1742 Hogarth portrait of Theodore Jacobsen may have been done. (See description of portrait now in the collection of Oberlin College’s Allen Memorial Art Museum.) In this portrait, Theodore Jacobsen is portrayed holding one of the images of the triangular house offered in this suite of engravings. This is a rare set. One of the original copper plates is in the Soane Museum. A set of the engravings is preserved in the Gough collection at the Bodleian Library. The V & A has one architectural drawing by Jacobsen. There are no copies in the British Architectural Library or Berlin. This set came from the collection of the Earl of Pembroke, Wilton House, Wilts. only a few miles from Longford Castle, then to Quaritch, then to private collector in the U.S. (10632)

With Ex-Libris of Isaac Ware

First edition, folio, 20-⅜ x 14 inches, 4pp, including engraved titlepage, + 35 numbered copper-engraved plates on 27 sheets, 9 of which are double-page, engravings by Fourdrinier after drawings by Isaac Ware. Bound: contemporary calf, raised bands, red morocco label with title stamped in gilt on spine, bordered by seven tooled gilt ornaments within raised bands, each ornament 1 x ½ inch of stylized flower within four leaves, gilt double-rule borders on both panels, engraved ex-libris of I. Ware (the author / publisher) on verso of titlepage, binding rebacked with some strengthening to corners, some pages soiled, browned, a few small marginal tears, still a complete collectable copy, with the ex-libris of Isaac Ware, the author / publisher.

Isaac Ware (1704-1766) was an English architect and translator of the books of Italian architect, Andrea Palladio. In 1721 he was apprenticed to architect Thomas Ripley, while continuing in the aesthetic sphere of Lord Burlington from whom patronage and influence he benefited. Gaining work from private patrons, he built a number of country houses, including Wrotham Park for Admiral John Byng and Clifton Hill House for Paul Fisher.

This book details the architectural plans by Colin Campbell, James Gibbs for the exteriors, and William Kent for the interiors, for Houghton Hall, built for Britain’s first prime minister, Sir Robert Walpole. Houghton Hall is considered one of the key neo-Palladian buildings in England. Three years after the publication of this book, he published his own translation of Palladio’s Four Books of Architecture, considered the best translation for the next 100+ years. (10631)