

ANTIQUARIAAT
FORUM

Dear Friends & Clients,

It's our pleasure to present a new short list on Emblem & Fable Books, consisting of 12 interesting works from the period between 1592 and 1821.

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Emblem & Fable Books



One of the early illustrated Italian editions of the "Aesop's Dorpii"

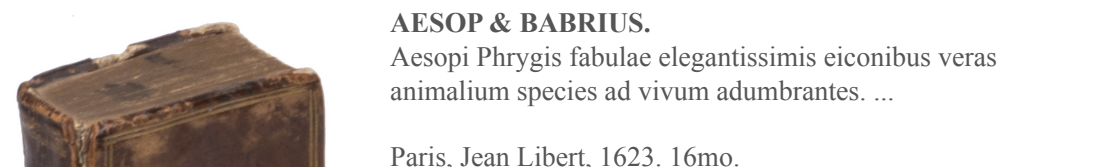


AESOP.
Aesopii Phrygis, et aliorum fabulae. ...

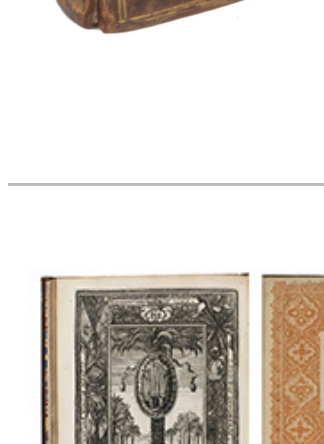
Venice, Niccolò Polo, 1592. 12mo.

Rare Latin edition of Aesop's fables with 187 woodcut illustrations, based on the first illustrated edition of the "Aesop's Dorpii" to be published in Italy, by Dominicus Nicolinus at Venice in 1563. This Latin prose collection of fables compiled by Martinus Dorpius (1485-1525), a humanist teacher in Louvain, was first published in 1509 at Antwerp without illustrations. The Dorpius compilation proved very important for the diffusion of Aesop as a school textbook during the following centuries and went through at least two hundred editions to the mid-19th century, mostly in small formats.

[More information and images.](#)



Prose and verse fables, and some of the earliest European combed marbled paper, in an armorial binding for William the Silent's son-in-law, Henri de La Tour (1555-1623)



AESOP & BABRIUS.
Aesopii Phrygis fabulae elegantissimis eiconibus veras animalium species ad vivum adumbrantes. ...

Paris, Jean Libert, 1623. 16mo.

Very rare 24mo edition of 150 prose fables by Aesop and 43 verse fables by Babrius (here called Gabrius) in Greek and Latin on facing pages, remotely based on the text of the illustrated humanistic editions published by Jean de Tournes in Lyons (Bodemann notes a 1570 edition, but the USTC records them back to 1550). While the existence of Aesop (ca. 620-ca. 584 BCE) as a story teller is attested in many early sources, the canon that appears under his name contains fables passed down orally and rendered in literary form by many authors over the centuries. Babrius wrote verse fables shortly before 200 CE that were later rendered in Greek prose and added to the Aesop canon.

[More information and images.](#)

Colour-printed emblematic polemics for and against war with the Ottoman Empire

[LA HAYE, Jean de].
Peristromata Turcica, sive dissertatio emblematica, praesentem Europae statum ingeniosis coloribus representans.

[Nürnberg, Wolfgang Enderl] (ad 1 with a false colophon: Paris, Toussaint du Bray), [each title-page with a chromogram:] 1641 (ads 1-2, 4) & 1642 (ad 3). 4 editions published together in 1 volume. -4o.

With:
(2) [HARSDÖRFFER, Georg Philipp].
Germania deplorata, sive relatio, qua pragmatica momenta belli pacisque expenduntur.

(3) [MILAG, Martini].
Aulica Romana, contra Peristromata Turcica expansa: ...

(4) [Anonymous French critic of Cardinal RICHELIEU].
Gallia deplorata, sive relatio, de luctuoso bello,...

Rare first and only Latin editions (probably the first and only editions in any language) of four closely related polemical pamphlets on European policy toward the Ottoman Empire, one written and supposedly first published in French; another written in French but apparently first published here, in Latin translation, and the other two written in Latin for the present editions.

[More information and images.](#)

More items concerning Turkey & Ottoman Empire



Scrivervius's 1650 edition of the collected poems of Daniel Heinsius, with emblematic engravings by Crispijn de Passe



HEINSIUS, Daniel.
Lof-sanck van Jesus Christus den eenigen ende eeuwigen sone Godes: ...

Amsterdam, Jan Jacobsz. Schipper, 1650. 8vo.

Third (second combined) edition, with minor corrections, of Petrus Schriverius's extensively annotated collection of the poetical and emblematic works of the famous Dutch and Neo-Latin poet and Leiden professor Daniel Heinsius (1580-1655). Two issues of this edition appeared simultaneously, the other published by Joost Hartgers, also in Amsterdam. Scrivervius (1576-1660) a famous humanist, scholar and intimate friend of Heinsius, published his annotated editions of Heinsius's Lof-sanck (with other works) and Poemata separately in 1616, in 4to editions by Willem Iansz. Blaeu in Amsterdam, who produced the combined 8vo edition in 1622. Scrivervius's editions were a milestone in the history of Dutch literature, introducing a new and more Renaissance-orientated style and vocabulary that proved very influential throughout the 17th and 18th centuries.

[More information and images.](#)



First edition of Jacob Cats's complete works, in richly gold-tooled morocco by the star bindery, The Hague

CATS, Jacob.
Alle de werken, so oudten als nieuwe.

Amsterdam, Jan Jacobsz. Schipper, 1655.

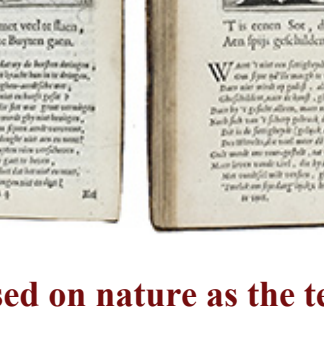
Folio.

First edition of a richly illustrated edition of all the works that had then been published, of Jacob Cats (1577-1660), one of the greatest poets and humanists of the Dutch golden age and one of its greatest statesmen. The binding can be dated to ca. 1758 as the watermark of the endpapers (horn on a shield above Vinderley = crown above OR), matches one from 1758 (Voorn, Noord-Holland 178). The binding can be ascribed to the so-called "star bindery" as it matches two of the rolls and five of the tools in use by this bindery as recorded by Storm van Leeuwen. "The bindery was situated in The Hague and had a wide clientele, within and (far) outside the town" (Storm van Leeuwen) and is known for its prize and presentation bindings, including several presented to William V, Prince of Orange or members of his family.

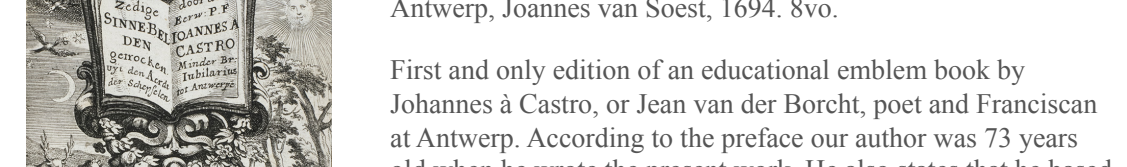
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Coming up



Wilson Hall, The University of Melbourne, July 31-August 2



Emblems based on nature as the teacher of men

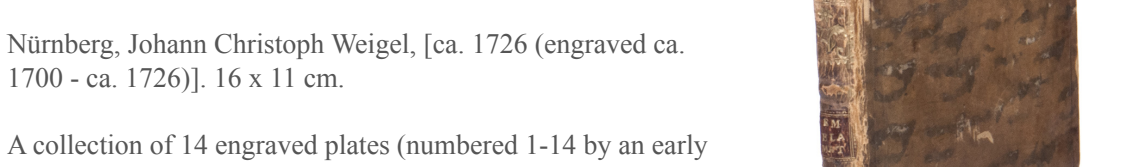


CASTRO, Joannes à (Jean van der BORCHT).
Zeijghe sime-belden ghetrocken uit den on-ghechreeven boeck van den aerdt der schepselen. ...

Antwerp, Joannes van Soest, 1694. 8vo.

First and only edition of an educational emblem book by Johannes à Castro, or Jean van der Borcht, poet and Franciscan at Antwerp. According to the preface our author was 73 years old when he wrote the present work. He also states that he based all his emblems on nature as the teacher of men, and he claimed that even illiterate people could enjoy the book. But he clearly meant "nature" to include the human race, since many emblems are about men (and women) as well.

[More information and images.](#)



14 plates from 4 early 18th-century series, containing 160 small emblems and 24 monograms, printed from the copper plates of the first editions

[EMBLEMATA & MONOGRAMS].
[Collection of emblematic and monogram plates from 4 series].

Nürnberg, Johann Christoph Weigel, [ca. 1726 (engraved ca. 1700 - ca. 1726)]. 16 x 11 cm.

A collection of 14 engraved plates (numbered 1-14 by an early hand) from 3 different emblematic works and a work on monograms, all published by Johann Christoph Weigel (1661-1726) in Nürnberg. Praz and others attribute items 2-4 to his father, the great Nürnberg engraver Christoph Weigel (1654-1725), who may have engraved their plates, though item 4 may have appeared shortly after his death. Click the link below for more details.

[More information and images.](#)



More items from or concerning Germany



Virtues and vices in 100 engraved emblems after Casper and Jan Luyken



SANCTA CLARA, Abraham à.
Huy! und Pfluy! der Welt. Huy, oder Anfrischung zu allen schönen Tugenden. ...

Nuremberg, Christoph Weigel; Würzburg, Martin Frantz Herten, 1707. Folio.

First edition of a German emblem book addressing virtues and vices in 100 emblems, compiled by the German preacher Abraham à Sancta Clara (born Johan Ulrich Mergerle; 1644 - 1709). As the title states, the book's purpose is to refresh the reader's virtues and to deter from vices by way of emblems. The concepts are explained in well-known fables and accessible symbols and allegories, like the sun, moon, fire, sea, weather, seasons, metals, gems, animals etc. Each concept is illustrated in an emblem accompanied by a motto in Latin and a poem in German and Latin. The emblems were engraved by Christoph Weigel after illustrations by Caspar and Jan Luyken from the *Ethica Naturae* (ca. 1700). Each emblem is followed by two pages of text explaining the emblem.

[More information and images.](#)



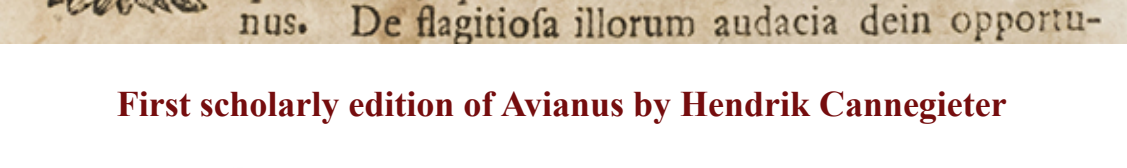
First Swedish translation of Ovid

OID and Jacob REENSTIERNA (translator).
Några fabler af Ovidii Metamorphosen, förswärskade (af Jacob Reenstierna).

Stockholm, Julius G. Matthiae, 1708. 8vo in 4s.

Nicely produced and finely illustrated first and only edition of a choice selection of fables from Ovid's Metamorphoses, translated into Swedish by Jacob Reenstierna, the first published Swedish translation of any of Ovid's writings. Reenstierna, the translator and editor, dedicated the book to Charlotte Piper, signing the dedication from Norrköping, 10 December 1708.

[More information and images.](#)



First scholarly edition of Avianus by Hendrik Cannegieter



AVIANUS.
Flavii Aviani fabulae, cum commentariis selectis Albini scholasticae veteris. ...

Amsterdam, Martinus Schagen, 1731. 8vo.

Most important first scholarly edition of the famous 42 fables by the Latin poet Avianus (ca. 400 AD) in its original edition. A parallel edition appeared at the same time in Leiden by Johannes van der Linden in 1731.

The editor, Hendrik Cannegieter (1691-1770) was a classical scholar and historian and (con-)rector of the Latin school at Amherst. To his edition he added the commentaries of the scholastic writer Albanus, the notes of the German philologist Caspar Barthius (1587-1658) and those of Isaac Nicolaus Nevelevius who edited the most important collection of humanistic and 16th-century fables, first published in 1610, with the title *Mythologia Aesopica*.

[More information and images.](#)



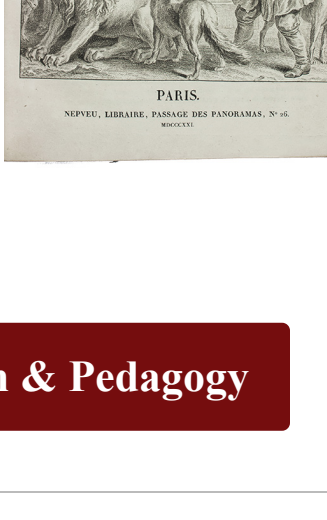
Illustrated edition of Jean de la Fontaine's fables, intended for a young public

[LA FONTAINE, Jean de].
La Fontaine en estampes, ou nouvelle édition des fables, plus complète que les précédentes; ...

Paris, Auguste Nerpveu, 1821. 4to.

Beautifully illustrated edition of the French verse fables of Jean de la Fontaine, loosely based on fables by Aesop, Horace and others and first published in the years 1668-1694 here including a "Précis de la vie de J. de La Fontaine", an abridged version of the biography by Charles Athanase Walckenaer, published in 1820. At the end of the biography, the author states that this edition was especially intended for young people, which is also reflected by the fact that below each fable there are some explanatory notes for children.

[More information and images.](#)



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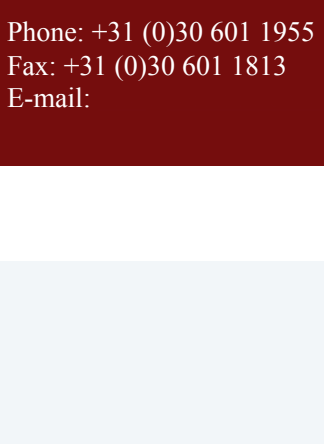
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Kind regards,

Laurens Hesselink

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