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Treatise on education and pedagogy based on the Christian religion


Altona, David Iversen, 1764. 2 works in 1 volume. 8º. With an engraved illustration on both title-pages. Slightly later brown pastepaper boards. € 2000

First edition of the first educational work by the well-known German pedagogue and reformer Johann Bernhard Basedow (1724–1790). In his extensive preface to both parts Basedow lists the errors of the old forms of education and exposes his own views on perfect education, gradually expanding step by step from the understanding of the human condition and the system of nature to a full and free understanding of duty, morals and the truth of Christian religion. At the end of the second work Basedow added his own catechism in questions and answers, entitled *Grundriss der Religion, welche durch Nachdenken und Bibelforschen erkannt wird, in Fragen und Antworten, nebst einige Zusätzen*. Further added are daily prayers and reflections on God and his creation. Basedow applied all his ideas on enlightened religion to religious education of children. He wanted religion to be truly understood and freely accepted as the ultimate truth, to which end he found the traditional religious education at fault.

With inscription and library stamp. Browned and foxed throughout. Binding slightly worn along the extremities, gold-tooling on the spine only faintly visible. Overall in good condition.

Plantin’s lovely little miniature edition of the New Testament in the ancient Syriac language, probably published in this pocket-sized format for the convenience of students and other scholars. Plantin’s son-in-law Franciscus Raphelengius, who had begun to establish his reputation as an orientalist when he helped prepare the Polyglot, added an appendix to this edition, giving unpublished variant readings from an important Cologne manuscript.

The New Testament relates stories that would have first been told (and in some cases probably also written down) in Aramaic, the vernacular language of Palestine in Jesus's time. Syriac, another dialect of Aramaic, served as the vernacular language of much of the Middle East. The Syriac text therefore provides valuable clues to the Aramaic sources of the New Testament.

In very good condition. A lovely little Syriac New Testament, well printed by Plantin.

Adams B1802; Darlow & Moule, 8952; Voet 668.
With the 6 large Daniel Stoopendaal maps and the series of 212 prints by Picard and others

5. [BIBLE]. Biblia, dat is De gantsche H. Schrifture vervattende alle de canonijcke boecken des Ouden en des Nieuwen Testaments. Dordrecht, Jacob and Pieter Keur; Amsterdam, Pieter Rotterdam and Pieter Rotterdam the younger (colophon: printed by Jacob and Pieter Keur, Dordrecht), 1714 (New Testament without Pieter Rotterdam the younger, 1713). 3 parts in 2 volumes. Large folio (42.5×27.5 cm). With engraved general title-page, series of 6 engraved double-page folding maps by Daniël Stoopendaal (his larger set), a complete set of 184 full-page and 28 double-page engraved illustration plates by various artists, including A. de Blois, J. van Vianen and J. Mulder, after G. Hoet, B. Picart, A. Houbraken and others. Gold-tooled sprinkled calf (1738?). € 7500

Beautifully illustrated large folio Dutch States Bible (Statenbijbel) with 6 six maps, including a world map, and a complete set of the striking illustrations drawn and engraved by Bernard Picart and others. The maps belong to the larger of two series by Daniël Stoopendaal and were explicitly made for the Keur Bibles with, for example, Bible scenes (rather than figures from classical mythology) decorating the world map.

With the armorial bookplate of Hendrik Gerardsz. van Couwenhoven (1711–1792) and a short handwritten genealogy of Couwenhoven's family, from Couwenhoven's marriage in 1738 to the birth of this last child in 1766. The binding appears to date from the middle quarters of the 18th century, so it may have been bound and presented for the occasion of the 1738 wedding. In very good condition. The binding is slightly worn at the joints, the headcap of volume 1 is damaged and there are a few other minor surface imperfections, but it remains generally in very good condition.

Criticism on all religions, proving Islam the true religion


London [= the Netherlands, probably Amsterdam], 1780. With (2) CLOOTS, Anacharsis. Lettre sur les Juifs, a un ecclésiastique de mes Amis, lue dans la séance publique du Musée de Paris, le xx1 Novembre 1782. Par. M. le B. d. C. d. V. d. G.

Berlin, 1783. 2 works in 1 volume. 8º. Contemporary mottled calf, gold-tooled spine. € 3000

Ad 1: First edition of the first of the revolutionary works of Anacharsis Cloots (1755–1794), a German utopist from Berlin. It is written in defence of Holbach, against the violent attack of Abbé Bergier. It is a parody on the latter's La Certitude des preuves du Christianisme, which was in itself a reply to Fréret’s Examen critique des apologistes de la religion chrétienne. Cloots shows that the arguments used by Bergier to prove that Christianity was the true religion, could also be used to prove that Islam was the true religion.

Ad 2: First edition of a “Letter on the Jews”, which is often found added at the end of La Certitude des preuves..., because in essence it contains the same arguments in disclaiming any “raison d’être” for the Jewish religion as the author presented in La Certitude for both the Mohammedan and Christian religions.

Binding very slightly rubbed along the extremities. Otherwise in very good condition, with only a few small spots and a small marginal water stain on first few leaves.

Ad 1: ESTC T86984; Martin-Waller 7755 E; STCN 306667978.
14 extremely rare religious print series, some emblematic and some Jesuit

8. **DAVID, Johannes.** Duodecim specula ... Antwerp, “Theodore Galle” [= Jan Galle], [ca. 1675? (engraved by Theodore Galle 1610)]. [1], xii ll. World Cat (1 copy).

With:


3. **[VIRGIN MARY & JESUS].** Praecipua vitae Jesu et Mariae ... [with Jesuit IHS device and motto, “Acta et mysteria” at head of title-page]. Antwerp, Jan Galle, [ca. 1675? (engraved by Karel & Philip de Mallery ca. 1630?)]. 44 ll. Not in Holstein; WorldCat.

4. **LEEUW, Siardo de (artist?).** Elogia ab excellentibus virtutibus ... B. Virgini ... Antwerp, Jan Galle, [ca. 1675? (engraved by Karel de Mallery ca. 1630?)]. 40 ll. WorldCat (3 copies).


6. **[VIRGIN MARY—PASSION & RESSURRECTION].** Psalterii B. Mariae Virginis aut rosarii inventor, ... [Antwerp], Jan Galle, [ca. 1675]. ll. A-Q, not in Hollstein; WorldCat.

7. **[HENSBERG, Vincent L.].** Miracula et beneficia ss. rosario Virginis Matris devotis ... Antwerp, Jan Galle, [ca. 1675 (engraved 1610)]. [1], 15 ll. WorldCat (1 copy).

8. **[CHURCH FATHERS].** [Each print with its own title:] S. Hieronymus ... S. Ambrosius ... S. Augustinus ... S. Gregorius. Antwerp, Jan Galle (engraved by Jan Collaert, ca. 1625?), [ca. 1675?]. 4 ll. Not in Hollstein; WorldCat.
(9) [VIRGIN MARY]. S. Maria protectrix Carthusianorum. Antwerp, Gaspar Hubert [engraver’s name erased: F[?Ila[?] del[?] et fec], [ca. 1690?]. [15] ll. Not in Hollstein; WorldCat.

(10) [7 SHEDDINGS OF BLOOD]. Typus 7 effusionum sanguinis Christi [Antwerp], Jan Galle, [ca. 1675?]. [1], 7 ll. [but most numbers erased]. Not in Hollstein; WorldCat.

(11) [PASSION & RESURRECTION]. Passio et resurrectio, domini nostri Jesu Christi Antwerp, Jan Galle, [ca. 1675 (engraved by Theodore Galle?, 1605)]. 22 ll. WorldCat (1 copy?); not in Hollstein.


(14) [RELIGIOUS LESSONS]. [incipit:] De kerckke vanden levenden godt de welcke is de pilaert ...
[Antwerp], (engraved by Michiel vander Gucht), [ca. 1680?]. [14] ll. Not in Hollstein; WorldCat.

14 engraved print series. 4º. 18th-century vellum. € 26 500

14 extremely rare 17th-century religious print series, several not found in the literature and possibly unique. Some are emblematic and some Jesuit, and most were published by Jan Galle II (1600–1676). Generally in very good condition.

Detailed description on request
Rare edition of Henrick Herp's important work on mystic theology. The work is divided into three parts, all intended for moral and religious education. The first part in 12 chapters covers how to die well, the second part how to live the “true” life and the last part how to lead a contemplative life. Herp develops his own system of mythical theology, but also derives much from the work of Ruusbroec.

Herp (d. 1478), a Franciscan born in the Southern Netherlands, was rector of the Brethren of the Common Life in Holland but returned to the South, where he lived in Mechelin. Peter Schoeffer at Mainz first published the present work in a German translation in or before 1474, and Gerard Leeuw published the first edition in the original Dutch in 1488 and it was translated into Latin and other languages beginning in 1513. Though placed with all Herp’s mystical theology on the index of prohibited books in 1559, it was revived in 1585 and went through further editions. The reference on the title-page to its having been newly examined and approved may allude to this.

In good condition. The binding rubbed and lacking 1 tie.

BCNI 5252 (2 copies); STCV (2 copies); Verschueren 29A; WorldCat (4 copies).
Early annual reports on Jesuit missions in Japan and China


Scritte al R.P. Generale della Compagnia di GIESV.

CON PRIVILEGIO.

In Milano, Per Pacifico Pontio. M.D. XCII

CON LICENTIA DE’ SVERIO.

One of the 1592-issues of this collection containing 8 important annual reports over the years 1589–1590 on the Jesuit missions in Japan (6 letters) and China (2 letters), first published in 1591 (Rome, Luigi Zanetti). The other 1592-issue was published in Venice by Giovanni Battista Giotti Senese. The letters, among others by the Portuguese Jesuit Duarte de Sande and his companion Antionio d’ Almeida, are written to the General of the Jesuits in Rome and provide valuable information on the Jesuit missions in these regions as well as on the daily life, customs and political situation.

Title-page slightly soiled. Good copy of this early collection of reports concerning Jesuit missions in Japan and China.

Cordier, Sinica, col. 796; cf. Alt-Japan-Katalog 814–815 (first edition and the other 1592-issue); Löwendahl 32 (the other 1592-issue).
Most important work of the mysterious and controversial Anabaptist David Joris

12. JORIS, David. T’Wonder-boeck: waer in dat van der wereldt aen versloten gheopenbaert is. [Vianen, printed by Dirck Mullem and distributed via a merchant in Emden, 1584]. 4 parts in 1 volume. 2º. With a half-page engraving of the Lamb of God in part 1, a spectacular full-page engraving of the nude bride of Christ in part 3 (by Hieronymus Wierix) and an engraved landscape with the way to eternal life in the sky in part 3. Blind-tooled calf over wooden boards (ca. 1645), each board in a panel design with three ornamental rolls, 2 brass clasps and catch-plates with engraved decoration. € 12 500

Second edition of David Joris’s famous Wonderboeck (Book of miracles), extensively revised and enlarged by the author in 1551 but not printed until almost thirty years after his death. One of the most important and most extensive works of the well-known Dutch Anabaptist David Joris, it was revered like a Bible by his followers. The present second edition was not only extensively revised and expanded but also took on new graphic form, Dutch textura types rather than the German fraktur, rotunda and schwabacher types of the first edition, and most of the larger woodcuts were replaced by engravings made for this edition. The stunning full-page bride of Christ by Hieronymus Wierix, a nude female figure, winged and crowned with a sword and a heart in her hands and two captive serpents and a skeleton at her feet, is a high point of the engraver’s art.

Lacking 2 leaves, each containing only an illustration, and with a small piece of the foot margin of the title-page cut out and patched to remove most of a library stamp. Leaves +2–+9 slightly shorter and possibly sophisticated (but from the same edition) and a few preliminary leaves with damage in the gutter margin. Otherwise a good copy, with a few marginal waterstains. Second and best edition of a central work in the history of Dutch Anabaptists.

Dutch Anabaptist heretic burned in Basel three years after his death


First German edition, of a rare and important early biography of the famous Dutch heretic and Anabaptist David Joris. Banished from Holland for his overt rejection of the abuses of the Roman Catholic Church, Joris fled to Friesland, where he met the Anabaptists. He joined them in 1533 after his baptism and tried to appease the disputing parties within the sect. Ecstatic and susceptible to flattery, he declared himself a prophet with a divine mission and supernatural powers. Soon he got many followers, but he and his group were also severely persecuted. In 1554, he came to live in Basle after five years on the run from the Dutch authorities. There he lived with his family as a rich and respected citizen under the name of Jan van Brugge, pretending to be a Reformed refugee while he still kept in touch with his followers in the Southern Netherlands. The present biography is especially valuable for Joris’s life in Basle (1554–1556).

With a small hole in 1 leaf, waterstains in the fore-edge and head margins, running slightly into the text, but still in good condition. Disbound and some of the sewing lost, so that 1 quire is detached.

Van der Linde 247; BMC STC German, p. 70; USTC 628444 (citing VD16); VD 16, D319; cf. Adams J-333 (Latin ed.).
Revived Mediaeval prophesies supposedly predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire

15. LEO VI (the Wise) of Byzantium and Antonius SEVERUS of Rome (attributed). Vaticinium Severi, et Leonis Imperatorum, in quo videtur finis Turcarum in praesenti eorum imperatore, una cum aliis nonnullis in hac re Vaticiniis ...

Brescia, Pietro Maria Marchetti, 1596. Small 8º (14.5 × 10 cm). With 16 numbered engraved emblematic illustrations. Contemporary limp sheepskin parchment. € 4500

First edition of the so-called Oracles of Leo the Wise, with a bilingual (Latin an Italian) text and 16 lovely and rather surreal engravings: an emblematic book of prophecies traditionally attributed to Leo vi (866–911/12), Emperor of Byzantium from 866 to his death and at least here also to Antonius Severus (188–217), sole Emperor of Rome from his murder of his brother in December 211 to his death (the book does not indicate which Severus is intended, but the preface notes that he reigned from 212). The Latin text was circulated, already attributed to Leo the Wise, in the 12th century, but Christians revived it in the 16th century and interpreted it as a prophecy that the Ottoman Empire would fall in 1622. These oracles remained popular in the 17th century, when they were presented as having predicted the setbacks that the Ottomans suffered in Europe in that period.

Owner’s inscriptions on the title-page, further with a bookplate. With a water stain in the first quire, but otherwise in very good condition, with only very minor foxing. The sewing supports have broken at the back hinge, the thong ties are lost and the vellum is slightly wrinkled, but the binding is still in good condition.

BMC STC Italian, p. 622; Caillet 11042; Edit16/ICCU, CNCE 28386; Mortimer (Italian) 254.
Early spiritual emblem book with poems and engravings by Jan Luyken

Amsterdam, Pieter Arentsz., 1687. 8°. With engraved frontispiece and 39 engraved emblems in text, all engraved by Jan Luyken. Contemporary vellum. € 1100

Expanded third edition of one of the earliest and most popular spiritual emblem books by the well-known Dutch poet and engraver Jan Luyken (1649–1712), first published in 1678. Devoted to a Christian’s love for Jesus, it contains 39 emblems accompanied by a motto, some Biblical quotations, and an explanation, or reflection. The present edition is enlarged with an extensive discussion on the “joys of the eternal fatherland”. Luyken was inspired for the present emblem book by the engravings of Boetius van Bolswert for the famous emblem book *Pia desideria* by Herman Hugo (1588–1629).
Only very slightly browned around the margins and a few tiny spots. Binding only slightly soiled. Overall in very good condition.

*Klaversma & Hannema 960; Landwehr, Emblem and fable books 474; Praz, p. 406.*
Old Church Slavonic Easter service book, printed and bound by the Kiev Monastery of the Caves


Kiev, Pechersk Lavra (Monastery of the Caves), [ca. 1801]. 8º in 4s (18.5×11.5 cm). Easter liturgy in Old Church Slavonic, with title-page and about 20 other pages printed in red and black, the title in a woodcut border and with a woodcut Paschal lamb, a full-page engraving of Jesus’s Resurrection on the back of the title-page, and all pages after the title-page with borders made up of 4 woodcut strips. Set in 3 sizes of Old Slavonic poluustav cyrillic type. Printed on laid paper with a blue-green cast. Contemporary gold-panel-stamped and gold-tooled calf by the Kiev Monastery of the Caves, with a panel stamp of Jesus on the front board and a panel stamp of Maria on the back, gilt edges. € 7500

A Russian Orthodox service book for Easter and the week following it, in the Old Church Slavonic language, printed, published and bound at the Pechersk Lavra (Monastery of the Caves) in Kiev. The monastery was established in the 11th century. After the fall of Constantinople in 1453 the Orthodox Churches in Russia and Ukraine developed independently. The power of the Czars allowed the Russian Orthodox Church to dominate, so that the Ukrainian Church came under the Moscow Patriarchate in 1686. The Monastery of the Caves is therefore now Ukrainian Orthodox, but fell under the authority of the Russian Orthodox Church when the present service book was published. It nevertheless had its own traditions and rites, so that the present book should be regarded as part of the Ukrainian heritage.

The only other copy we have located is at Amsterdam University Library, one of three Easter service books by the Kiev Pechersk Lavra recorded on WorldCat, all octavos.

With a lengthy cyrillic inscription on an endleaf. The sewing is somewhat loose and as a result a few leaves are tattered at the edges. There are occasional minor smudges and drops of candle wax. Much of the gold-tooling has rubbed off the binding and the spine is slightly damaged. In spite of these minor defects, the book is in good condition, especially for a book of this nature.

The first English Qur’an to be translated directly from the Arabic, still highly regarded

21. [QURAN—ENGLISH]. SALE, George, trans. The Koran, commonly called the Alcoran of Mohammed, ...
London, Charles Ackers for John Wilcox, 1734. Large 4o (25.5 x 20.5 cm). With 5 engraved plates: a large folding map of the Arabian peninsula (with an inset view of the “Temple at Mecca”), a folding plan and view of the “Temple at Mecca”, and 3 family trees (2 folding). Contemporary calf, gold-tooled board edges. Rebacked.

First edition of the first English Quran to be translated directly from the Arabic: a landmark not only in efforts to bring an accurate version of the Quran to the English-speaking world, but also in Western Quranic studies in general. It also includes Sale’s 7-page note to the reader, with criticisms of earlier translations into English and other languages, his 187-page preliminary discourse bringing together a wealth of information about Islamic culture, and valuable scholarly footnotes, including material from the Islamic commentaries of al-Baydawi and al-Suyuti. Holt notes his “enlightened and objective attitude” in sharp contrast with most Western Arabists of his day or earlier: “His freedom from religious prejudice …, his obvious conviction that Arabic writers were the best source of Arab history, and Muslim commentators the fittest to expound the Quran, marks an enormous advance …”. Sale’s English translation remains highly regarded today.

In fine condition and only slightly trimmed. The binding is rebacked and has several restorations, but is otherwise good and remains structurally sound. A landmark edition of the Qur’an and the first good English translation.

Pamphlet against the ultra-orthodox minister
Adriaan Smout


Rotterdam, Matijs Bastiaensz., [1613]. 4º. Disbound. € 250

First and only edition of an anonymous pamphlet criticizing religious matters as advocated by the Remonstrants, published in answer to a pamphlet by the ultra-orthodox minister Adriaan Joriszoon Smout (1580–1646). Smout had published his pamphlet, entitled Schilderij oeyghen-brief aen de E.M. Heeren Staten ende recht verstandt van synen toe-eyghen-brief ... het fondament der salicheyt raken ofte niet, in 1613. He stated, amongst other things, that the States should punish heresy and blasphemy with the death penalty. The States of Holland, however, were not amused by Smout’s ideas: they banned the pamphlet and send Smout into exile. The present pamphlet disagrees with Smout’s harsh opinions, and pleads for tolerance and peace within the Dutch Protestant Church.

Slightly browned, especially around the margins. Stitches loosened, first quire detached from the rest. Otherwise in good condition.

Knuttel 2073; NNBW III, cols. 941–944; STCN 832939587; Tiele, Pamfletten 1090.
23. SWINDEN, Tobias.
Recherches sur la nature du feu de l’enfer et du lieu où il est situé.
Amsterdam, 1757. With 2 folding engraved plates. 19th-century vellum.
€ 900

Third edition of the French translation of a work on hell by the English clergyman Tobias Swinden (1659–1719). Besides the punishments one can expect in hell, it mostly deals with the location of hell. Stating that the fire in hell isn’t a metaphor, but real fire, and that the fire was eternal, Swinden places the hell in the sun. He includes different opinions on the placement of hell, refuting the idea of fire (and hell) being inside of the earth. He also tries to reconcile science and religion, referring to Copernicus and Tycho Brahe, and agreeing that the sun, and not the earth, is the center of the universe and not the earth. In spite of the scholarly approach of the work, it became rather popular and appeared in various editions and translations.

With two bookplates on paste-down. Title-page slightly soiled, margins slightly browned throughout and with a few small spots. Binding only slightly soiled. Overall in very good condition.

Caillet 10495; STCN 297979747.
The two major texts by Marcus Vigerius de Savona (or Emmanuele Vigerio; 1446–1516) in their second editions. The *Decachordum Christianum* was first published by Girolamo Soncino in Fano in 1507. It is a devotional work, dealing with the Holy Family and Christ’s incarnation, from the Annunciation to the Ascension. This second edition was printed in Hagenau in the Alsace, for the most famous publisher of Nuremberg, Anton Koberger. Each of the ten sections is preceded by a splendid woodcut by the “Master I S with the shovel”, an artist of the school of Hans Schäufelein (ca. 1480–ca.1539) in Nuremberg and Nördlingen, who was himself a pupil of Dürer. The Master probably also worked in Alsace and his work is often confused with Schäufelein’s. His style, however, is somewhat different and shows also the influence of Dürer and Baldung.

With (partly erased) contemporary owner’s entries on the first fly-leaf and title and many contemporary scholarly annotations in text, spine skilfully restored, some spotting on a few leaves. Very good copy in a magnificent contemporary blind-tooled binding, probably from Nuremberg.

*Oldenburg (Schäufelein) I, 129; Proctor, German Books 1501–1520 11684; VD 16, Vt183; cf. Thieme & Becker XXIX, p. 58.*
Massacre of the Waldensians in Piedmont

25. [WALDENSIANS]. Recit de ce qu’il y a de plus considérable aux affaires des églises reformées des vallées de Piedmont, depuis les massacres de l’année 1655.

[Amsterdam, Abraham Wolfgang(?), after 1663]. 4º. Contemporary wrappers.

Rare copy of a pamphlet on the massacre of the Waldensians in Piedmont in 1655. It is probably a second edition as the title-pages mentions: “Jouxte la copie imprimée à Haerlem 1663”, though no copies from this previous Haarlem edition are known.

The Waldensians are a Christian movement with its origins in the later Middle Ages in France and they were persecuted as heretics from the 12th century onwards. From the early 17th century they were considered as early forerunners of the Reformation. In 1655 the Duke of Savoy commanded the Waldensians of Piedmont to attend Mass or leave in 20 days. The remaining Waldensians were massacred, causing indignation throughout Europe.

Some waterstains in the upper margins; wrappers with slightly rubbed edges and spine restored with cello tape. Otherwise a good copy of this rare pamphlet on the Piedmont massacre.

Bibliografia Valdese 1672; STCN (1 copy); Tiele, Pamfletten 5055; WorldCat (3 copies); not in Knuttel.
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