

Death becomes her ...

Lux Mentis Booksellers
[Post-mortem 1.0]



Camden, William (after); James Basire [engraver]. **The Funeral Procession of Queen Elizabeth I, From a Drawing of the Time, Supposed to be the Hand of William Camden, Then Clarenceux King at Arms, Which Was in the Possession of John Wilmot Esq, FRS & by Him Deposited in the British Museum.** London: Society of Antiquaries, 1791. First Edition. Minor shelf/edge wear, remnant of label (dated 1891) affixed to verso of the first panel, occasional paper flaws and irregularities to panorama, sporadic foxing, minor abrasion to front pastedown, else bright and clean. Half bound, black leather spine and tips, blue pebbled cloth boards, gilt lettering and decorative elements, marbled front pastedown. Oblong 8vo. np. Illus. (colored plate) Very Good. Hardcover.



Custom folder holding folding panorama, engraved plates joined on versos to form continuous view: 9 and 3/8 inches by nearly 29 feet. Spectacular hand-colored panorama of the funeral procession of Queen Elizabeth I in April 1603, reproducing drawings in the British Museum ascribed to Elizabeth's biographer William Camden, who appeared in the procession in his official role as Clarenceaux King of Arms. Other mourners of note include Robert Cecil, Thomas Egerton, and Walter Raleigh. At the time of her death, most Englishmen had known no monarch but Elizabeth, as the elaborate formal procession detailed here was swelled by thousands of Londoners. This engraved copy of Camden's original drawings was produced in 1791 for the Society of Antiquaries, appearing in the third volume of "Vetusta Monumenta"; the panorama has been almost entirely colored in an early hand. Left uncolored, strikingly, is the effigy of the queen mounted upon her coffin, a likeness so startling that the London crowd gasped to see it. It is presumed it was left uncolored to reflect the virtue of the Virgin Queen. An exemplary recording of one of the great public ceremonies in English history and document displaying the social order of the monarchy and common people. This edition appears scarce and OCLC lists only five institutions for holdings. (#9317) \$12,500.00





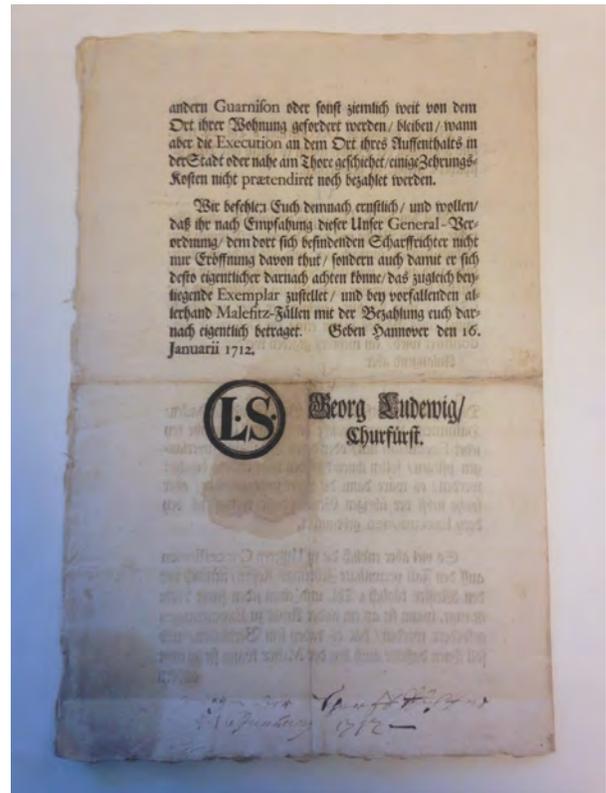
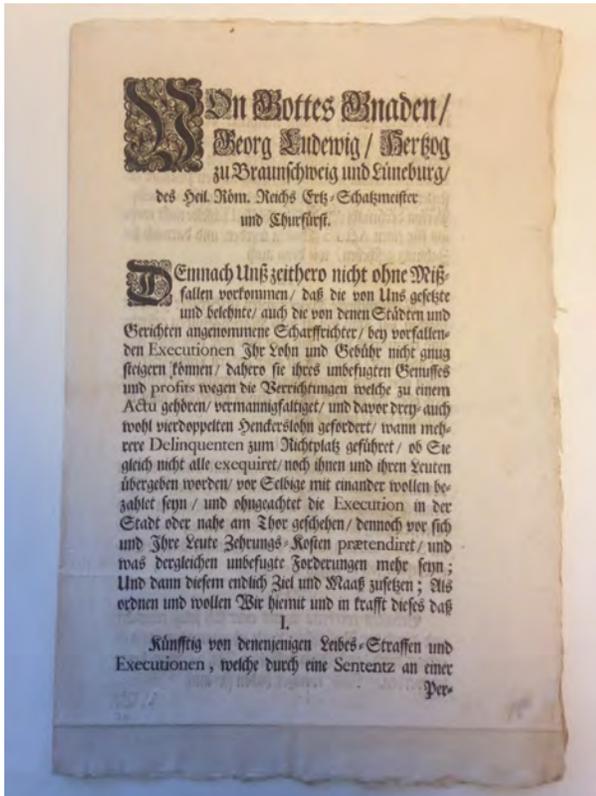
Collection of Early New England Grave Rubbings. Some rumpling around edges, pencil notations, else clean. Various sizes, blue and black rubbings. Good to Very Good+. Loose sheets.

61 various grave rubbings from early New England graveyards collected by one man between 1968-1980. (#8708) **\$7,500.00**

Ludewig, Georg, Herzog zu Braunschweig und Lüneburg [George I of Great Britain]. ... **"Von Gottes Gnaden, Georg Ludewig, Hertzog zu Braunschweig und Lüneburg, des Heil. Röm. Reichs Ertz-Schatzmeister und Churfürst..."** [An Edict Regulating Prices for Executions and also for Salaries of Hangmen issued by Georg Ludewig, Duke of Braunschweig-Lüneburg]. Hanover, Germany, 1712. Unique. [Hanover] January 16, 1712. Single folio broadside (320 mm x 205 mm). Printed on one single sheet, recto and verso watermarked pages, handsome heading and ornamented versals in common blackletter Fraktur typeface on common rag [could be flax] deckle-edge paper. Legible date of decree. Evidence of two early folds, likely folded into fourths and page four [verso] is lightly stained [with coffee, tea?]. Untrimmed and printed for travel and distribution, however, in exceedingly good condition. Very Good. Pamphlet.

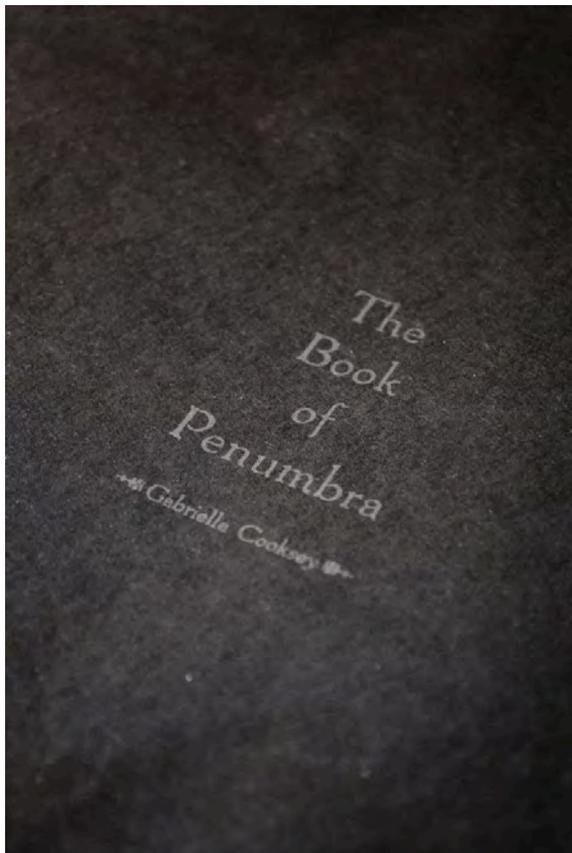
Highly curious and politically motivated legal edict, produced in Hanover [Holy Roman Empire], regulating prices of various forms of execution, and also the regulations for the salaries that may be charged by hangmen. On behalf of Duke Georg Ludewig of Braunschweig und Lüneburg, the present edict sought to control "excessive" execution fees. Georg Ludewig, the Duchy of Brunswick-Lüneburg (Hanover), was also known as George I, King of Great Britain and Ireland, beginning two years later in 1714. This edict, interestingly enough, was issued during the War of the Spanish Succession in Europe.

The Duke is basically calling out the local states within the region for delinquency and organizing of unauthorized fees for executions. Once regulations and set fees were established, with different fees for different methods, including strangulation (1 Thaler 24 Marien Groschen), decapitation (ditto), hanging, etc. The edict states there should be a limited payment for assistants, nails, chains, but not for tools - unless said tools were broken in service (sic). Overheads are claimable if caused by delay, but limits are imposed on "hospitality" (sic). Section VI gives special notice on the execution of deserters and concessions to those in the military. The edict was enforced by threat of punishment (sic). *Unknown to David Murray, "Lawyers' Merriments." An interesting glimpse into 18th century early German state law, labor, and politics. No copies held outside Germany [WorldCat]. (#9073) \$1,000.00



Cooksey, Gabrielle. **The Book of Penumbra**. Tacoma, WA: [Artist Book], 2016. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Black paper boards, grey lettering; hinged wooden box, inlaid metal coffin in lid, ribbon lift. 8vo. np [19pp]. Illus. (b/w with gilt plates). Numbered limited edition of 23. Fine in Fine Box. Hardcover.

*A book of small stories of death gods from around the world. "Death has always fascinated me because it happens to all of us yet no one talks about it. I wanted to see what other cultures personified death as through myths and legends. The gods in this book are very hushed and for some, even if you speak the name, you'll be cursed. I wanted this book to be shadows, to be played in the light. I chose a delicate paper so one could see through to the page behind it. The text is in all sorts of shapes because I wanted each story to represent the god being told about. For instance, Sedna is in the shape of drowning, Anubis is his eye, Mac is a pit with someone at the bottom. The borders are all plants, roots, and things found on the earth. Some represent death like the poppy, and the yew tree." [artist statement] "These stories are told using pen and ink, then tidied up in Illustrator. Photopolymer plates were combined with handset Packard, then letterpress printed and hand colored." [colophon] Thai Mulberry Black and Tenju-jo Japanese Kozo. Photopolymer plates from sketches; handset metal type. Signed and numbered by the artist. (#9157) **\$1,000.00***



Burman, Jack. **The Dead [Special Edition]**. Toronto, Canada: The Magenta Foundation, 2010. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Archival wooden box, stained grey, magnetic closures. Quarterbound, brown cloth spine, beige cloth boards, paper onlay, laid in sleeve with a numbered, signed original print. 4to [7.25x10.25]. 128pp. Illus (color plates). Boxed edition. Fine in Fine Archival Box. Hardcover.



Foreword by Martha Hanna. "Canadian photographer Jack Burman has created a hypnotic collection of still-lives of long-departed but painstakingly preserved people, specimens and skeletons—dehumanized but very human; flawed but very beautiful. Exquisitely captured, Burman's post-mortem documentation addresses not only death, but the lives that came before. "The photographs are shocking in their intimacy. With clear respect in their representation, Jack Burman works excruciatingly close to their humanity, and to their death." Taken from the foreword by Martha Hanna, Director of the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography." (#7302) \$950.00

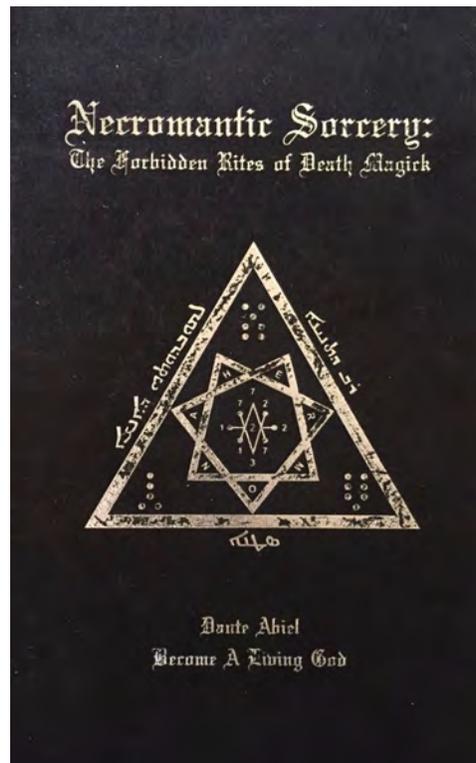
Morisot, Jean. **Criminalia: Ex Libris.** Jean Morisot, nd. Discrete pencil notations, else bright and clean. Nine bookplates on various papers. Near Fine.

A set of bookplates designed by Morisot for his crime library. Morisot was best known for his erotic engravings.
(#9041) \$750.00



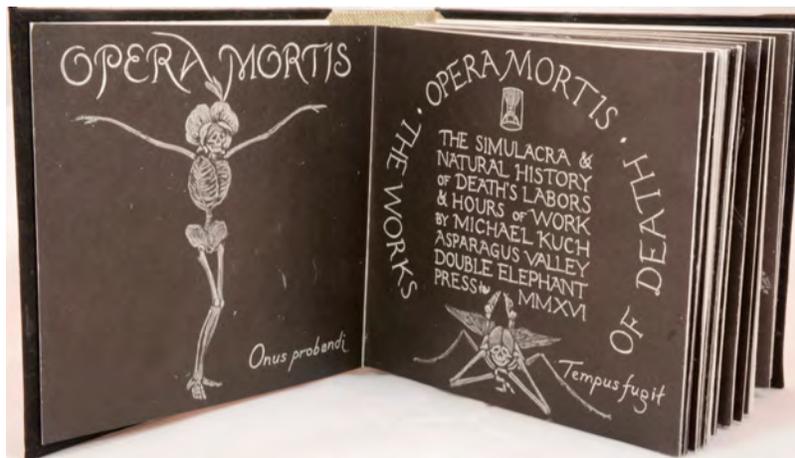
Abiel, Dante. **Necromantic Sorcery: The Forbidden Rites Of Death Magick. Presented by E.A. Koetting.** Become a Living God, 2014. First Edition. Minimal shelf/edge wear, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Black velvet boards, silver gilt lettering and decorative elements, black endpages. 8vo. 279pp. Illus. (b/w plates). Glossary. Limited edition of 300. Near Fine. No DJ, as Issued. Hardcover.

The 'fine velvet edition' (there was a smaller edition bound in leather). "Necromantic Sorcery is the **FIRST** grimoire to ever expose the most evil mysteries of death magick from the Western, Haitian Vodoun, and Afrikan Kongo root currents. In it, you are going to learn the most extreme rituals for shamelessly exploiting the magick of the dead, and experiencing the damnation of Demonic Descent on the Left Hand Path." (from the publisher) A provocative approach to Saturnian Necromancy. Rather scarce in the market. (#9093) **\$550.00**

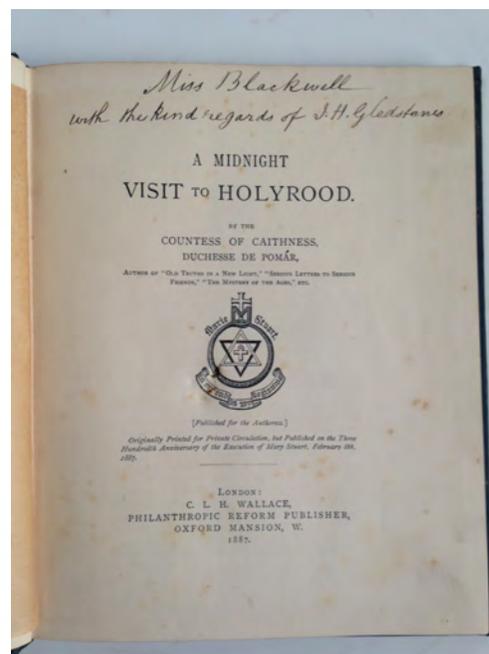
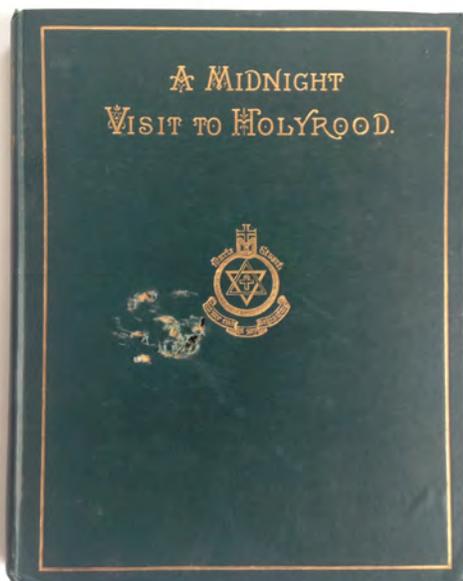


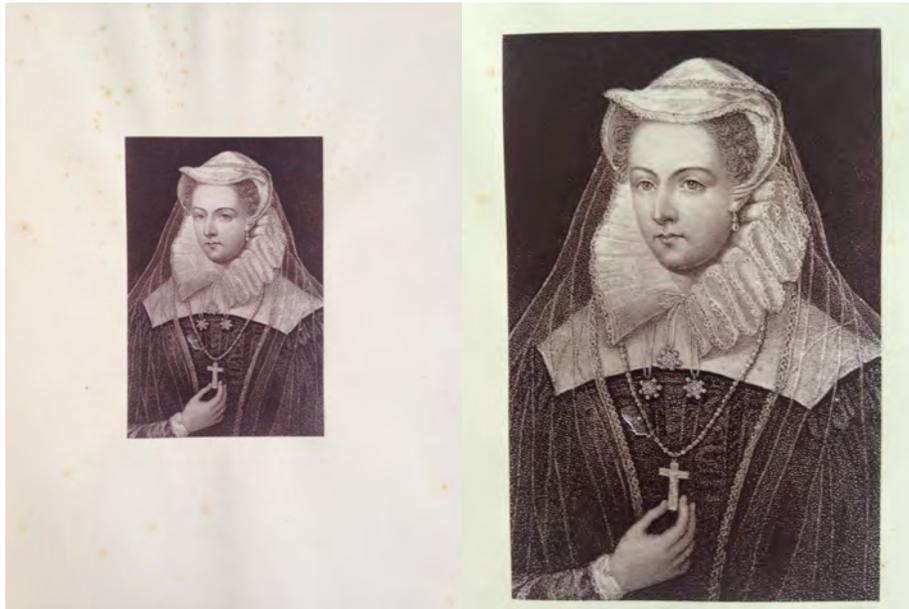
Kuch, Michael. **Opera Mortis-The Works of Death**. Northampton, MA: Double Elephant Press, 2016. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Cased in four-flap chemise. Book can be displayed as a 12 point star revealing all the etchings in equilateral triangles. Covers fold back 180+ degrees and are fastened with magnets. Magnets in the chemise hold the star-display at key points. Etching on front and back cover. Square 8vo. 24pp. Illus. (b/w relief etchings). Limited edition of 365. Fine in Fine Archival Case. Hardcover.

Printed and bound by the artist. Paper made by Katie MacGregor. "Inspired by Hans Holbein's Simolachri, Historie, e Figure de la Morte (1549) this dance of death comes as a natural history with human, skeletal death embedded in all manner of beasts. The binomial nomenclature is derived from common Latin terms: Quid proquo, Habeas corpus, Et cetera. Quatrains, etched along with the images, describe the occupations of death from pope to artist." (from the artist) (#9050) **\$365.00**



Countess of Caithness, Duchesse de Pomar [Marie (Mariategui) Sinclair]. **A Midnight Visit to Holyrood**. London: C.L.H. Wallace, Philanthropic Reform Publishers, Oxford Mansion, 1887. Limited Edition. Originally printed for private circulation, but published on the three hundredth anniversary of the execution of Mary Stuart, February 8th, 1887. Slight foxing on the frontispiece and portrait of Mary Stuart, and a strange series of period puncture wounds to front cover penetrating text to stab portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots on page 45. Else, tight, bright, and a scarce and odd book. Original dark green cloth, lettering and pictorial device on front and back covers, edge, in gilt, black coated endpapers. Frontispiece with tissue guard and one portrait. 103 pages, 2 unnumbered leaves of plates, illustrations, Very Good+. Hardcover.



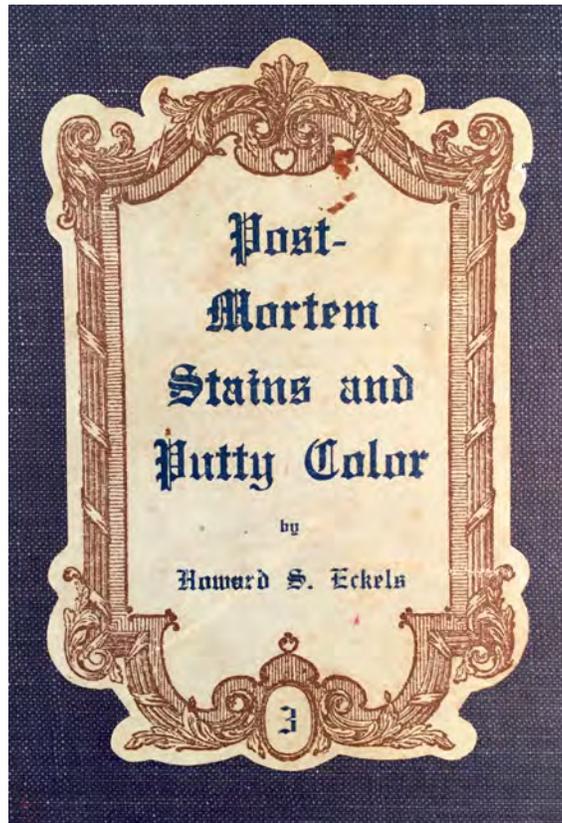


Recollection of the communication between Marie Countess of Caithness and the ghost of Mary Queen of Scots from Holyrood House in Edinburgh. Marie used to visit Holyrood House near midnight and claimed to listen to the dead queen's spirit voice. The work was originally published for private circulation only, and it is likely that the Countess gave copies to her friend exclusively. This edition, printed by C.H.L. Wallace appears to be limited.

*The Countess was increasingly influenced by theosophy and universalism in 1876, and joined the Theosophical Society founded by known occultists Madame Blavatsky and Colonel Olcott in New York. In 1884, during their stay in Paris with Lady Caithness, Blavatsky approved the creation of the "Theosophical Society of the East and West," the French branch of the Theosophical Society. Lady Caithness's theosophy was marked by esoteric Christianity influenced by Jakob Boehme and Swedenborg. She held a spiritualist salon in her Parisian mansion, every Wednesday from spring to autumn in the early 1890s. As to the damage inflicted on the book itself, a few theories arise: it is possible it is just book vandalism. A more compelling and fascinating theory is the book was part of hysteria or ritual to evoke the spirit of Mary Queen of Scots. The book is inscribed to "Miss Blackwell" of which there are two well-known spiritualists in London and Paris; Anna Blackwell and Elizabeth Blackwell. Anna was a prolific writer and participated in the spirit communities during the late 19th century in London and Paris. It is also recorded she was a medium and was said, at times, to be tormented by the ghosts and spirits that threatened her. (#9384) **\$350.00***

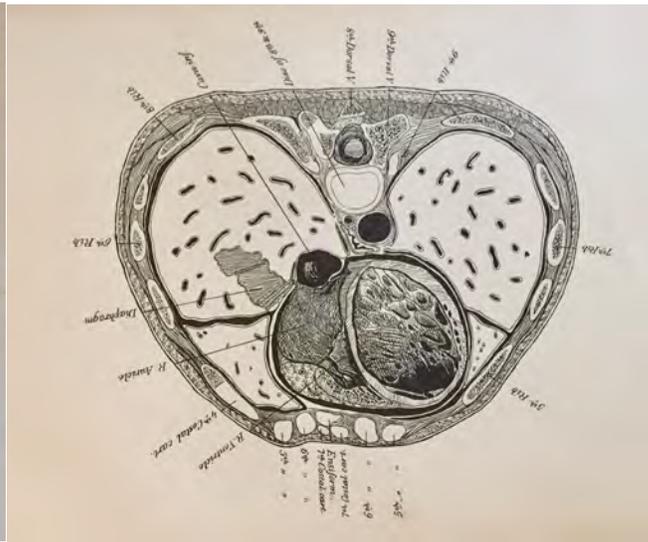
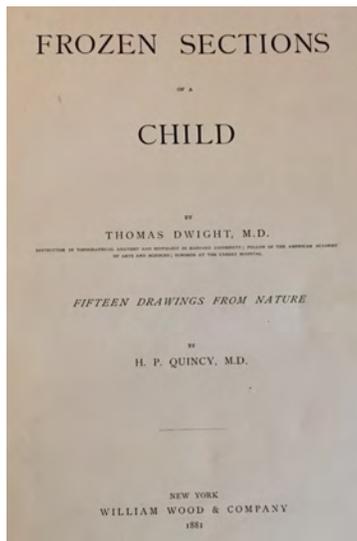
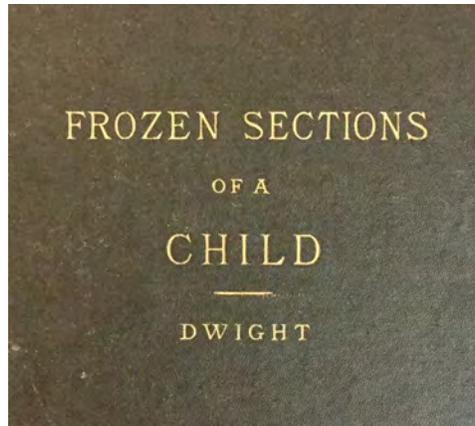
Eckels, Howard Samuel. **Post Mortem Stains and Putty Color.** Philadelphia: Press of H.S. Eckels & Co., 1922. First Edition. Minor shelf/edge wear, joint starting at staples, light/even toning to textblock, ownership signature and notation at front, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Navy cloth boards, printed label, fold-out map (in red) of circulatory system. 12mo. 53pp plus adverts. Illus. (color print). Very Good+. Hardcover.

*Includes 'modern' book curse, "'Notice' / This book is the property of G. L. Dodds. / Read if you care to but do not mark, destroy, or carry out of back room. / G.L. Dodds / P.S. I weigh 157lb. Let this be a warning to you. / G.L.D. (#8966) **\$245.00***



Dwight, Thomas. **Frozen Sections of a Child.** New York: William Wood & Co, 1881. First Edition. Light even toning, tips through, wear at head and tail, ownership signature at first blank, moderate shelf/edge wear, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Black cloth boards. 8vo. Illus. (b/w plates). Good+ [Textblock Very Good]. Hardcover.

Includes fifteen full-page drawings from nature by H.P. Quincy. A century or so before CAT scans and MRIs, this work offered detailed tomographic images. Remarkably important (and one of the great titles in publishing). First edition of a classical work of great importance in pediatrics, and the first American group of serial sections. This work provided tomographic images a century before the CAT and MRI. Dwight was a Harvard medical school and, later in life, succeeded Oliver Wendell Holmes as the Parkman Professor of Anatomy. "A classical work of great importance in pediatrics, and the first American group of serial sections" (Choulant-Frank, p. 409). (#8962)
\$225.00



Berlin's Mourning Stationary set and Mourning pins. London: Berlin's, Late 19th century/early 20th century. First Edition. Some foxing, otherwise, in excellent period condition. 1 bundle of folded, black-edged note paper containing two different sizes, in 8 and 9 sheets. Sheets are watermarked WHITING. Tied together with a very delicate black silk ribbon. 2 bundles of envelopes, 18 total, in laid or linen stock, held together with two beautifully printed paper bands which read, BERLIN'S MOURNING PAPERS. 1 box of black enameled straight pins. Two are slightly bent. Black and gold paper label reads, SUPERIOR JET MOURNING PINS, MIXED SIZES, LONDON & BIRMINGHAM. ENGLAND. Very Good+. Original Wraps.

During the Victorian era, aside from the clothing, there was so much planning involved in the mourning and funerals of the upper classes, including the appropriate etiquette ranging from mourning black-edged envelopes, paper and black sealing wax to mourning jewelry. Women would also pin their mourning veils with black straight pins. (#9403) \$125.00



Frigid Fluid Company funerary supply advertisement and invoice. Chicago, IL, 1916. Unique. Single double-sided invoice and advertisement, unmarred and in original condition. Illustrated and annotated. Scarce and weird. Very Good+.

Frigid Fluid Company is a manufacturer of embalmers', undertakers' and cemetery supplies since 1892. The invoice includes ads and images for casket lowering devices, morgue table, viewing couch, ambulance baskets, and more notably, the Hill vice grip chin support for embalming processes. (#9400) \$100.00

FRIGID FLUID COMPANY, INC.
 MANUFACTURERS OF EMBALMERS' AND CEMETERY SUPPLIES
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The famous FRIGID Casket Lowering and Raising Device, the indispensable machine, cannot be operated, simpler in its parts, affording the most beautiful ceremonial service, in the most expeditious and safe manner.

Standing over you touch the lever of the support the machine starts the casket slowly and safely descends to the last resting place. With this device you have made the impossible a reality, the raising and lowering of the grave is effected by its simplicity and safety design, the tallest has been lowered gently and safely.

This machine will lower any size casket, being adaptable in dimension to fit any grave.

We will gladly quote price upon application.

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Four swivel casters, all steel, top, giving sliding, flexibility, security, safety, ease of use. This table comes and weighs 25 lbs. and is 24 inches wide and 48 inches long. It is used by raising the lever and by rotating the lever and by moving entirely around without moving the base.

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No. 1000 Casket Shape Ambulance Basket \$25.00

No. 1079 Coffin Shape Ambulance Basket \$25.00

Huss, Mathias; David Wolfe [artist]; Eli Kahn [printer]. **La grāt danse macabre des hōmes ["Dance of Death at a print shop"]**. Portland, ME: Wolfe Editions, 1499; [2017]. Limited Edition. Limited edition print, in fine condition. Original woodcut rendition of 1499 plate in late Medieval early printed book, which not only has spectacular representations of death but also the first illustration of a printing office and a working printing press. Run of 25, signed and numbered by printer, approximately 11x17" Fine.

One of the first representations of publishing's workflow is the wood engraving published in an edition of the "Grande Danse Macabre", by Mathias Huss (Lyon, 1499); a book representing all trades of the time, in a "Dance of Death" genre, late-medieval allegory on the universality of death. The wood cut depicts a printing press with a compositor, two printers and a bookseller – from production to distribution – separated by a pillar, a common way at that time to make a time or space ellipsis (later used in comic books). Woodcut designed and created by David Wolfe and printed by Eli Kahn at Wolfe Editions, Portland, Maine.

(#9301) \$25.00



Lux Mentis, Booksellers specializes in fine press, artist's books, first editions, and esoterica with a particular emphasis on challenging and unusual materials.

We actively collaborate with archives and special collections libraries to meet the research and collecting needs of public learning institutions, private, independent libraries and collections with primary sources.

The "Death becomes her ..." short list includes rare editions and obscure books illustrating the enlightened and fascinating side to death culture.

Please contact us for an appointment or with questions regarding the inventory and to confirm availability. More pictures of items available, upon request.

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[Catalogue list created by Kim Schwenk and edited by Ian Kahn]