

CATALOGUE

FIRSTS

LONDON RARE BOOK FAIR

June 7th-9th, 2019

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1. BULAQ IMPRINT / CATHERINE THE GREAT

Jean-Henri CASTÉRA (1749-1838), author. Iakovos ARGYROPOULOS (Yakovaki Efendi (1776–1850)).

اجمال اوائل دولت روسیه

[İcmal-i eva'il-i ahval-i devlet-i Rusiya [or] Katerina Tarihi / General Overview of the Russian Empire [or] The History of Catherine].

Moskov diyarında mukim bulunan Kastera nam Fransa elçisinin Moskov devleti hakkında cem ettiği tarihin tercümesidir...

Bulaq: Matbaatü Sahibi'l-Fütuhati'l-Bahire [1246-1830].

8°. [6], 225 pp., contemporary black cloth boards and calf spine with gilt decoration (light water-staining throughout the book, mostly in the lower parts of the paper, loss of white margins of the first page with old paper repairs, old numeration in blue ink and rubber stamp on the front endpaper, last pages with tiny wormholes in the inner white margins, page 111 with a tear in the lower part).

This early Bulaq book is a translation of a French biography of Catherine the Great *Vie de Catherine II, Impératrice de Russie*, by Jean-Henri Castéra (1749-1838), published in 2 volumes in Paris in 1797. The book was exceedingly popular in Europe and was translated to many languages. The text was the first Western text translated to the Ottoman Turkish and printed by the Bulaq press in Cairo, at the time of complex relations between the Ottoman Empire, Russia and consequentially Egypt.

The first edition of the text was published in by the Bulaq Press in 1244 (1828) with 160 pages. This enlarged second edition, with annotations by the editor Sadullah Said Amedi was issued two years later, in 1246 (1830).

There appears to be two versions of the second edition, differing in the pattern of the heading and numeration of the index pages. Possibly the heading was replaced with a new one, after the first printing plate broke. Our version shows broken lines in the upper part of the heading.

The translator was Iakovos Argyropoulos (“Yakovaki Efendi” (1776–1850)), a linguist and an official translator of the sultan, appointed as an official dragoman in Vienna.

Historical Context: The Brief Russo-Ottoman Alliance

Russia and the Ottoman Empire had been mutual arch-nemeses for centuries, fighting innumerable wars against each other, contesting large areas of territory. While the Ottomans were traditionally the dominant power, beginning in the 1770s, during the reign of Catherine the Great, Russia turned the tables, conquering all the Ukraine.



Russia came out of the Napoleonic Wars with a strong hand, determined to press its advantage against the Sublime Porte, placing pressure upon Ottoman-held territories in both the Danube and Caucasus regions, while supporting Greek and Slavic separatists in the Balkans. The Ottoman Empire, although ruled by Sultan Mahmud II, a skilled and reforming leader, was bedevilled by internal problems. The Sublime Porte's direct authority barely extended past the area around Constantinople and Anatolia, as powerful regional separatist movements developed, while even local leaders normally loyal to the Sultan, jealously guarded their autonomy. Beyond that, Mahmud II had to contend with powerful opposition within his own court from conservative elements who resented his reformist policies.

Interestingly, the fierce Russo-Ottoman military rivalry had overshadowed what was a mutually beneficial commercial relationship. Russia and the Ottoman Empire were almost perfectly complementary trading partners, with each having an overabundance of goods that the other had in short supply, but very much desired. For instance, the Turks had a need for Russian furs, timber, precious metals and wheat; on the other hand, the Ottomans could provide Russia with semi- and tropical produce (ex. coffee, tobacco), and exotic luxury items such as ivory, as well as leather, metalwork and carpets. During peacetime, trade between the two empires boomed, to great mutual advantage. Even during wartime, products from each nation fetched high prices on the black market (vast, high volume smuggling networks always operated by between Russia and the Ottoman Empire).

Events during the 1820s ended up creating a unique set of circumstances whereby Russia and Ottoman Empire became allies, albeit begrudgingly. In 1826, Mahmud II successfully suppressed the Janissaries, the conservative, elite military class that had been the main opposition to his reformist agenda. Nevertheless, this caused a great deal of turmoil at the Sublime Porte, such that officials came to lose sight of events further afield. Russia entered the Greek War of Independence (1821-9), assisting the combined fleet of Greece, Britain and France, crushing the main Ottoman-Egyptian fleet at the Battle of Navarino (1827), effectively securing the succession of the Peloponnese as the sovereign Kingdom of Greece two years later. This conflict dovetailed into the Russo-Turkish War of 1828-9, during which Russia pressed its advantage, defeating the Ottomans in the Caucasus and the Danube.

The Treaty of Adrianople (1829), which ended the war, compelled the Sublime Porte to cede territories along the Danube and the Caucasus to Russia, as well as to agree to pay a large war indemnity. While the harsh terms of the treaty would, at first, seem to feed the continued cycle of mutual animosity, it ended up sowing the seeds for a Russo-Turkish rapprochement.

Mahmud II was feeling diplomatically isolated, as France and Britain, traditionally Turkey's leading trading partners and, at times allies, were giving him the cold shoulder. Muhammad Ali, the Vali (Governor) of Egypt, while technically the Sultan's subordinate, was in the process of not only asserting his country's autonomy, but he also seeking to gain control of the Ottoman Levantine provinces.

Meanwhile, the first rumblings of The Great Game, the epic contest between Russia and Britain for control of South-Central Asia, was driving a wedge between St. Petersburg and London, while Czar Nicholas I personally detested the House of Bourbon that ruled France. Russia therefore came to find itself a bit isolated, and like the Ottoman Empire, was eager to recharge its economy which was in bit of doldrum.

In this context, in Constantinople, both Russian and Ottoman officials and leading merchants reached out to each other. At first, they had informal conversations, but at one point in 1830, this dialogue gained official sanction.

Both nations believed that if they could cut and regularize the customs duties between the Ottoman Empire and Russia, that it would both greatly stimulate legitimate trade, as well as disincentivising the black-market. To this effect, Alexander Ribeaupierre, the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Russian Embassy in Constantinople, authorized a team led by Paul Pisani, the Director of the Commercial Chancery, and Antoine Franchini, the Chief Interpreter of the Embassy, to officially commence negotiations with an Ottoman delegation appointed by Sultan Mahmud II. The Turkish side was headed by Tahir Bey, the Chief Inspector of Munitions Factories, and Salih Bey, the Chief Customs Officer. After many meetings over several months, both parties agreed to a schedule of tariffs (both imports and exports) that would be uniformly applied to both parties. The hundreds of itemized goods listed on the present work were assessed fixed tariffs, while products not listed were to be assessed a 3% tariff. While the 3% was the same as called for during the last Ottoman Russian tariff agreement (1799), the rates placed upon the itemized goods were, generally, dramatically lower. As noted, the present agreement was signed in Constantinople on July 7, 1831.

Only a few months later, the First Egyptian-Ottoman War (1831-3) broke out. Egypt, under Muhammed Ali, openly rebelled against the Sublime Porte, and his modern, energized army, led by his son Ibrahim Pasha, surged up through the Levant, easily defeating the Ottomans. Through much of the following year, the Egyptians fought their way into Anatolia, crushing the main Ottoman army at the Battle of Konya (November 21, 1832). The Egyptians were then poised to march upon Constantinople, which they would almost certainly have been able to take, barring some unforeseen, extreme circumstances.

Through the same channels that negotiated the 1831 Customs Agreement, Mahmud II reached out to Czar Nicholas I for assistance – something that was extraordinary in and of itself! After some internal debate, the Russians decided that it would be far preferable to preserve a weakened Ottoman Empire, dependent on Russia for its survival, then to allow Constantinople to be taken by the Egyptians, clearly an aggressive force with an unknown attitude towards Russia. Simply put, the Czar elected to stick with the “devil he knew”.

Russia sent a large fleet and army to Constantinople, occupying the city with Mahmud II's uneasy consent. It was then made very clear to the Egyptians that the Russians were prepared to confront them. Ismail Pasha, who had no desire to permanently control Turkey, and seeing his supply lines over extended, wisely agreed to parley.

At the Convention of Kütaahya (May 1833), Egypt agreed to immediately withdraw its forces from Turkey and to publicly declare Mahmud II to be their legal overlord. In return, Mahmud II would appoint Muhammed Ali as the Vali of the Levant (in effect making the region a part of a sovereign Egypt). Even though this allowed the Sublime Porte to save face, while giving Egypt what it essentially wanted (the Levant), both sides signed the pact under duress, leading the Sublime Porte and the Egypt would have a rematch six years later, the Second Egyptian-Ottoman War.

Russia, while not intending to permanently occupy Turkey, hoped to permanently replace Britain and France as the Sublime Porte's premier military and economic partner. To this effect, Russia

compelled Mahmud II to sign the Treaty of Hünkâr İskelesi (Treaty of “the Sultan’s Pier”, July 18, 1833), which gave highly favourable diplomatic and commercial rights to Russia. A ‘secret clause’ within the treaty (which like most secrets in Constantinople soon got out!) had the Sultan agree to close the Turkish Straits to all foreign military traffic upon Russia’s request. This threatened to make the Black Sea, if not much of the Eastern Mediterranean into a Russian lake.

Not surprisingly, Britain and France were livid upon learning details of the Turco-Russian alliance. Not only did the new agenda threaten their trade in the Near and Middle East, but it forcefully called for the projection of Russian naval power into the Mediterranean, something that the Royal Navy found unacceptable.

Britain and France proceeded to place immense pressure upon the Sublime Porte. These efforts were supported by the innumerable franco- and anglophiles at Mahmud II’s court, who were always uncomfortable over the relationship with St. Petersburg.

The pressure resulted in the Treaty of Balta Limani (1838), which gave Britain massive commercial privileges in the Ottoman Empire, far outstripping those which were offered to Russia in 1833. Czar Nicholas I was indignant, and while he did not annul his alliance with the Sublime Porte, the bloom was clearly off the rose. Meanwhile, France, frustrated by Britain’s success in Constantinople, decided to throw its lot in with the Egyptians, such that it was for a time ‘on the outs’ with the Sublime Porte.

During the Second Egyptian-Ottoman War (1839-41), the Ottomans were, once again, throttled by Muhammad Ali’s armies in the Levant. It did not help that Mahmud II’s death on July 2, 1839, placed the empire in the hands of his untested 16-year old son, Abdülmeçid I. In 1840, in what was known as the ‘Oriental Crisis’, Britain and Russia intervened to support the Ottomans, while France abruptly pulled back its support of Egypt, fearing conflict with Britain.

At the Convention of London (July 15, 1840), Britain and its allies offered Muhammad Ali a face-saving way out; he would be permitted to maintain his autonomous rule over Egypt and Sudan (a status which Muhammad Ali’s successors would be permitted to inherit), in return for withdrawing from the Levant. While he would have to recognize the Ottoman Sultan as his overlord, that arrangement would be in name only. Seeing that Britain and her allies would be able to defeat his forces, four months later, Muhammad Ali reluctantly accepted the Conference terms.

Sultan Abdülmeçid I was an even more radical reformer than his father, famously ushering in the liberal, pro-Western policies of the Tanzimat Era (1839-76). He was grateful to Britain for its decisive role in saving his empire, and over the course of 1840s, Britain’s

economic and military influence at the Sublime Porte grew dramatically. France also managed to regain its preferred status in Constantinople, while the Turco-Russian alliance was progressively side-lined.

Czar Nicholas bitterly resented the dissolution of the alliance, and by the late 1840s, the relationship between Constantinople and St. Petersburg could only be described as sour. While the Ottoman economy grew, and many aspects of the empire benefitted greatly from the Tanzimat Reforms, the country was still beset by internal problems and was militarily weak – a factor Russia elected to exploit.

During the Crimean War (1853-6), Russia unwisely provoked a conflict with the Ottomans without realizing that Britain and France would go to immense lengths to preserve the Sublime Porte. While a difficult conflict for both sides, the Ottomans and its allies defeated Russia, so continuing the old cycle of mutual Russo-Turkish animosity and warfare that would persist until Mustafa Kemal Atatürk signed the Treaty of Kars (1921) with the Soviets.

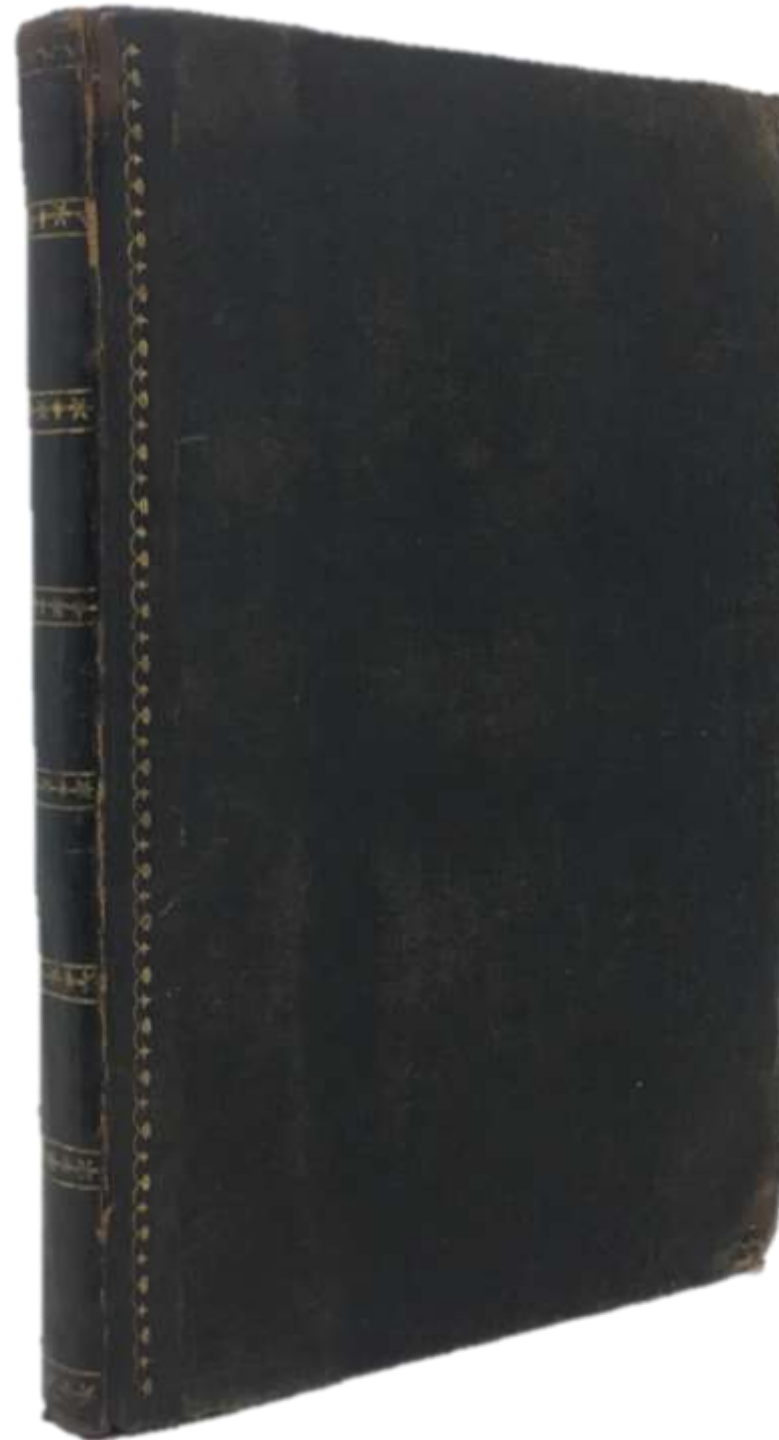
Bulaq Press

The Bulaq or Al-Amiriya Press (Amiri Press, Amiria Press), the first Muslim official and governmental printing press established in Egypt, was founded in 1820 by the viceroy of Egypt Muhammad Ali (1769-1849), and is still active today.

Already in 1815, the first delegation was sent from Cairo to Milan to learn the printing techniques. After the construction of the press was finished in the autumn of 1820, it took another two years to transport the machines and school the employees. The first book, an Arabic-Italian dictionary, was published in 1822. In the next decades the Bulaq Press became the leading publishing house for the Arab world, also printing books in Ottoman Turkish.

References: Johann Strauss. An den Ursprüngen des modernen politischen Wortschatzes des Osmanisch-Türkischen. Radoslav Katicic. *"Herrschaft" und "Staat". Untersuchungen zum Zivilisationswortschatz im südosteuropäischen Raum 1840-1870. Eine erste Bilanz*, Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, pp.197-256, 2004, p. 208.

1.600 GBP



2. BULAQ IMPRINT / LITHOGRAPHY / BOOK ILLUSTRATION / OTTOMAN POPULAR ROMANCE

Folk Tale. محمد حنی (Mohamed Hany?), illustrations.

حکایه شابور چلبی

[Hikâye-i Şabur Çelebi / Story of Şabur Çelebi]

Bulaq (Cairo): Bulak Matbaası 1293 [1877]

A first printed edition of an Ottoman folk tale, set in Baghdad, was made by Bulaq Press in today's Cairo, and is accompanied with 19 lithographed images.

19th century illustrated lithographed books with populist content, printed in the Islamic world, are today still an under-researched territory and an underappreciated collecting field.

8°. 91 pp. letterpress in Ottoman script with 19 full page black and white lithographs, later full calf binding with gilt lettering on the cover, later endpapers (old collector's stamp on the title page (Library of Sheikh Waleed), sporadic sheets loose in the gutter, first sheets hardly noticeable water stained in the upper corner).

Accompanied with:

a. Hikâye-i Şabur Çelebi

Istanbul: Orhaniye Matbaası 1341-1925.

The first 20th century reprint of the book in Ottoman script.

8°. 75 pp. With black and white illustrations within text, [2], original illustrated wrappers, stapled (wrapper slightly age-toned and stained with a loss of paper in the spine and on the upper part of the cover, signature on the title page, inside in a good condition).

And:

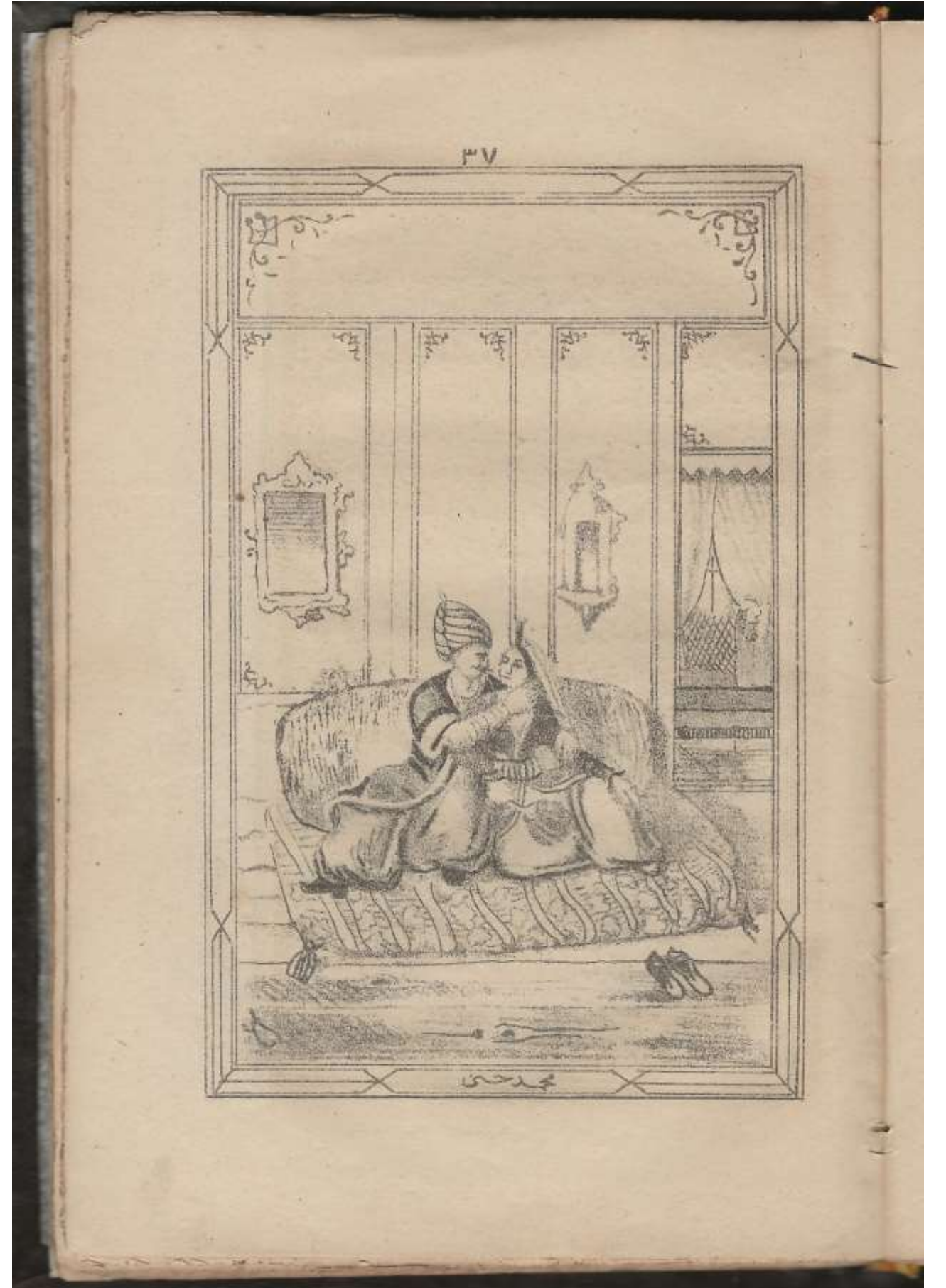
b. Mehmet ASAF, editor.

Hikâye-i Şabur Çelebi

Istanbul: 1996.

First separately published transcription of the text to modern Turkish.

8°. 70 pp., [1], original wrappers with illustrated title.



A popular Turkish tale on Şabur Çelebi, set in Baghdad and mixing romance and adventures in the style of *The One Thousand and One Night*, was printed for the first time in 1877 by the Bulaq Press, the first press in Egypt, in Ottoman script. The text, printed in movably type, is accompanied with 19 full page lithographed illustrations. A red stamp on the title page indicates, that the book belonged to a collection of a Sheikh Waleed.

The printed popular romances and folk tales of the 19th century, published in the Islamic world and accompanied with lithographed illustrations are today extremely rare and remain until now an under-researched territory and an underappreciated collecting field.

Lithographed illustrated books in the Islamic World

Lithography was introduced to the Islamic world in the second and third decade of the 19th century. Although much more appropriate for reproducing a hand-written text and calligraphy of the Arabic script than movable type, lithography was often frowned upon as a cheap technique, and was only slowly replacing the letterpress.

Illustrations started appearing sporadically just shortly before the mid 19th century. In the second half of the same century they became more common for the populist books.

The popular romance texts with accompanying lithographed illustrations, printed in the 19th century in the Islamic world, are extremely rare today. First, they were often read until they fell apart, second, they were thrown away, after they came out of fashion, or in the case of the Ottoman script, after they became incomprehensible, and third, the technique of lithography was extremely demanding and often the plates were replaced with similar copies during the printing process due to the damage, making some examples today unique copies.

The books in Arabic letters with folk tales and popular genre, perhaps for their historical nearness, cheap looking printing and populist texts, have not yet developed into a major collecting field, although they offer almost a limitless potential of practically untread field of collecting.

Bulaq Press

The Bulaq or Al-Amiriya Press (Amiri Press, Amiria Press), the first Muslim official and governmental printing press established in Egypt, was founded in 1820 by the viceroy of Egypt Muhammad Ali (1769-1849), and is still active today.

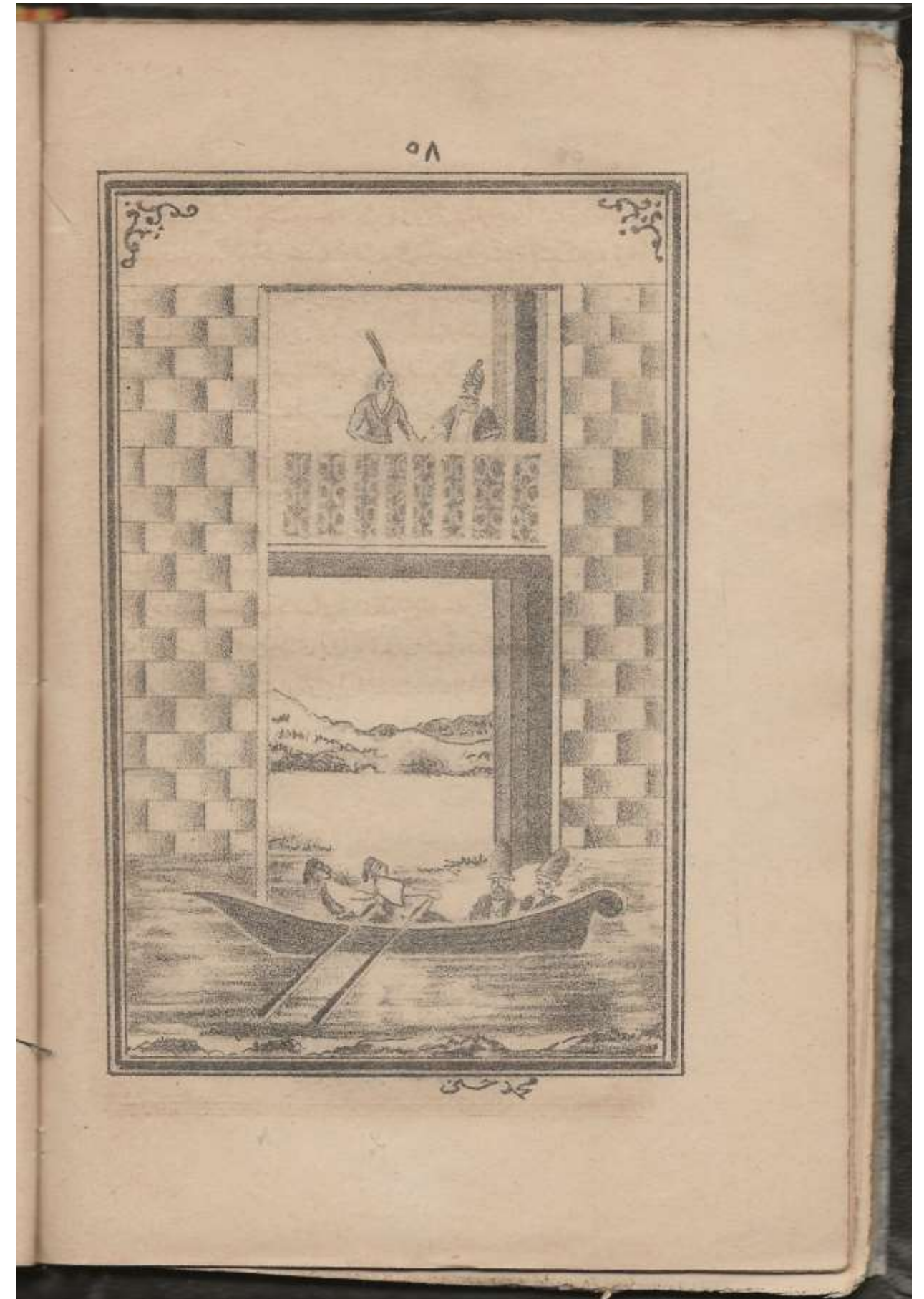
Already in 1815, the first delegation was sent from Cairo to Milan to learn the printing techniques. After the construction of the press was finished in the autumn of 1820, it took another two years to transport the machines and school the employees. The first book, an Arabic-Italian dictionary, was published in 1822. In the next decades the Bulaq Press became the leading publishing house for the Arab world, also printing books in Ottoman Turkish.

We could find three institutional copies (Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Sachsen-Anhalt, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Türk Tarih Kurumu (inv. Nr. A/0509)).



References: OCLC 251458103. *Türk folklor ve etnografya bibliyografyası, Vol. 3*, Ankara Üniversitesi Basımevi, 1975, p. 109, nr. 1481. Ulrich Marzolph, "LITHOGRAPHY iv. LITHOGRAPHED ILLUSTRATIONS," *Encyclopædia Iranica*, online edition, 2012, available at <http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/lithography-iv-lithographed-illustrations-> (accessed on 30 June 2012).

1.400 GBP



حکایت شاہ پور
جلد



حکایت شاہ پور چلبلی

خلیفہ ہارون الرشید دورینہ عائد بر حکایتہ در

اون طقوز قطعہ رسمہ مزیندر .

ایکتنجی طبع



صاحب و ناشری :

انبال کتبناہ سی صامی - مسین

اورخانیہ مطبعہ سی

۱۹۲۵ - ۱۳۴۱

3. BULAQ PRESS / OTTOMAN POETRY

Arpaeminizide Mustafa Sami (? - 1146/1734)

دیوان سامی

[Divan-i Sami / Diwans by Sami]

Bulaq: Maṭba‘at Şāhib al-Sa‘ādah al-Abadīyah, 1253 [1837].

8°. 104 pp, 47 pp., 67 pp., modern calf binding with a flap and embossed purple decoration, modern marbled endpapers, old taxation stamp on the first page (first pages stained, mostly water stained in margins, the second part with water staining in the inner margin, water staining on the last pages touching the text, old annotations in blue pencil on the first page and annotations in blue ink and pencil in margins of the text, old title on the edge, 20th century reparations with Japanese paper to the inner side of the last two pages and to the upper part of the last page with a loss of paper in the upper part, tiny worm holes and tiny tears in the margins

This is the first printed edition of the collection of diwans by an Ottoman poet Mustafa Sami, printed in Bulaq, by the first Muslim press in Egypt.

Mustafa Sami (?-1734) was an Ottoman author in poem, famous in his time for his diwans and ghasals. Born in Istanbul, Sami was employed as a higher governmental official and accountant. He allegedly wrote a part of his work in a mental institution.

This is the first printed publication of Mustafa Sami's diwans, gathered from 33 different manuscripts from various Middle-Eastern institutions, and printed in the first Muslim press in Egypt, in Bulaq.

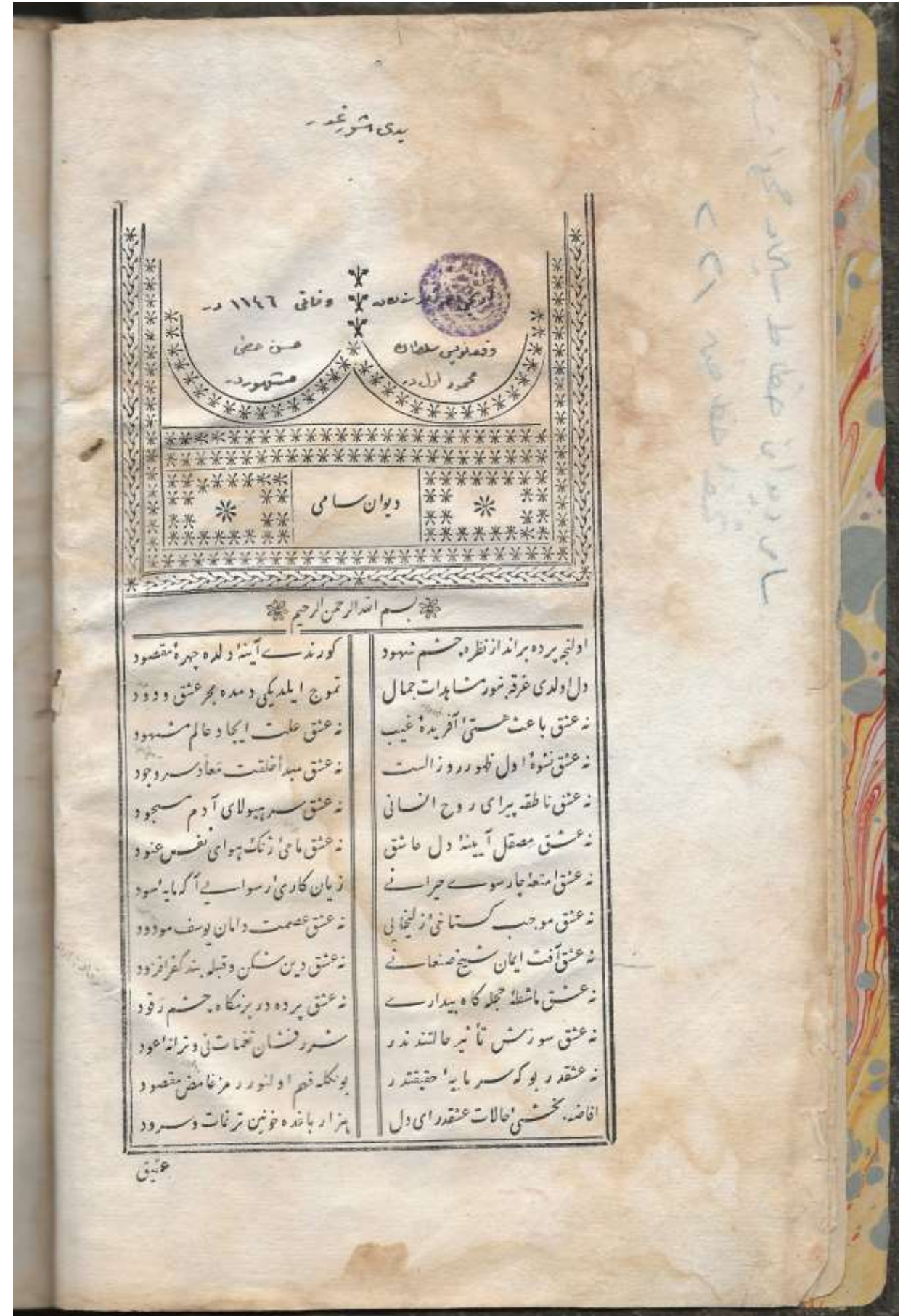
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References: Özege 4218. Kutlar, Fatma Sabiha (1996). Arpaemîni-zâde Sâmî Dîvânı: Tenkitli Metin-İnceleme-Özel Adlar Dizini I-II. Doktora Tezi. Ankara: Hacettepe Üniversitesi (<http://www.turkedebiyatilisimlersozlugu.com/docs/sami.pdf>).

750 GBP



4. MASNAVI / SUFISM / TEHRAN IMPRINT

الدولة علاء خان رحيم محمد (Jalāl ad-Dīn Muhammad Rumi, 1207-1273), author; محمد طاهر محمد (Muḥammad Raḥīm Khān 'Alā' -al-Dawlah), editor; محمد طاهر محمد (Muḥammad Ṭāhir Mustawfī Kāshānī), concordance of the verses; Muḥammad Bāqir al-Mūsawī al-Imāmī al-Iṣfahānī, calligrapher.

المعنوى المثنوى كتاب هذا

[Hedhe Kitāb al-Masnavi al-Manavi]

A rare, large, elegantly lithographed Masnavi, printed in Tehran.

Tehran: 1299 [1881].

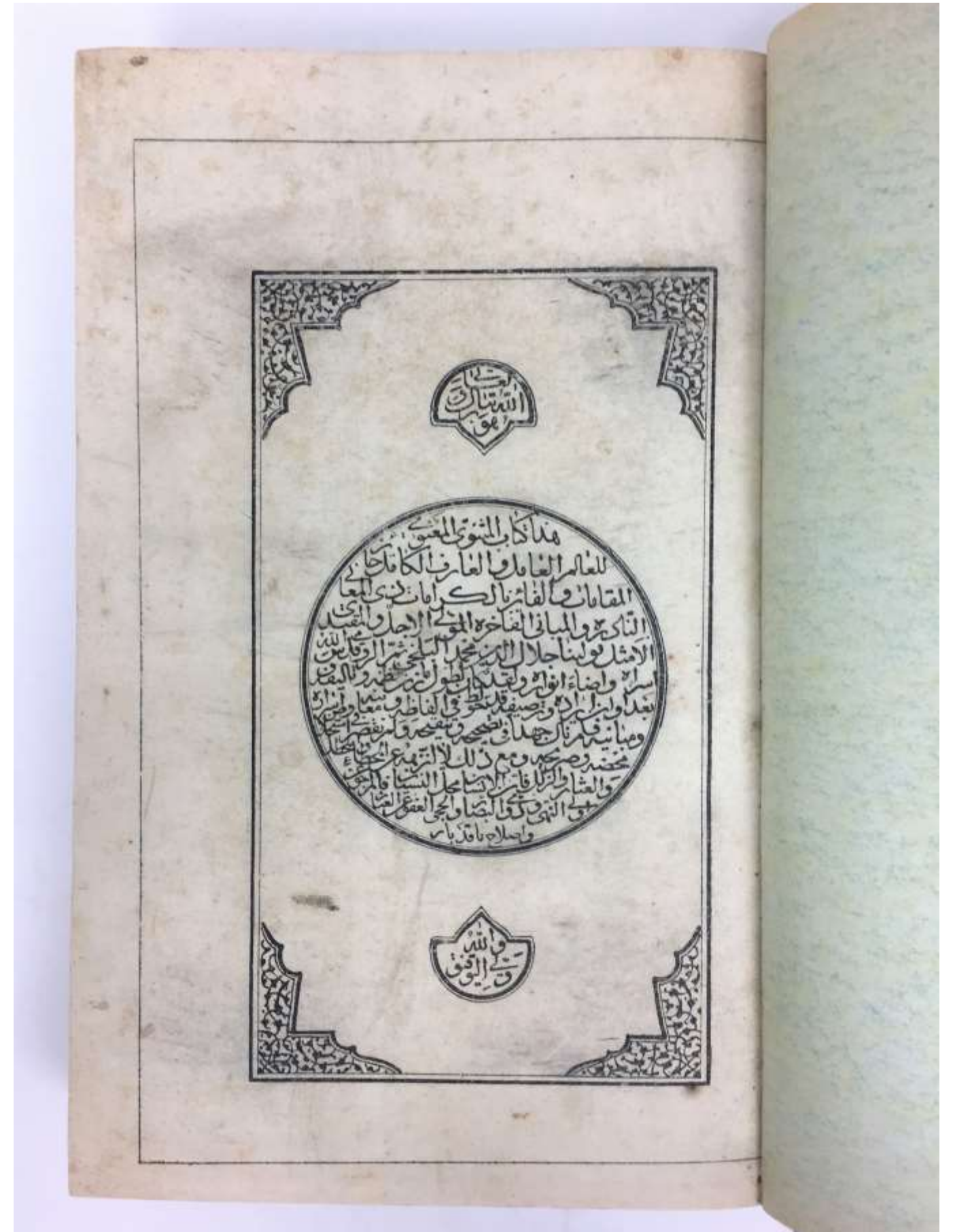
Folio. [1] title page, 669 pp., [1] mistakenly bound page 145-146 of the index (repeats again in the index pages), 146 pp., 4 pp., [1] colophon, all pages lithographed, contemporary black cloth boards, black calf spine with gilt lettering (slightly stained, sporadic corners cut wrongly by the binder, old annotations in Arabic script dated 1918 on the last page, binding slightly age-toned, stained and scuffed on the edges and spine, otherwise in a good condition).

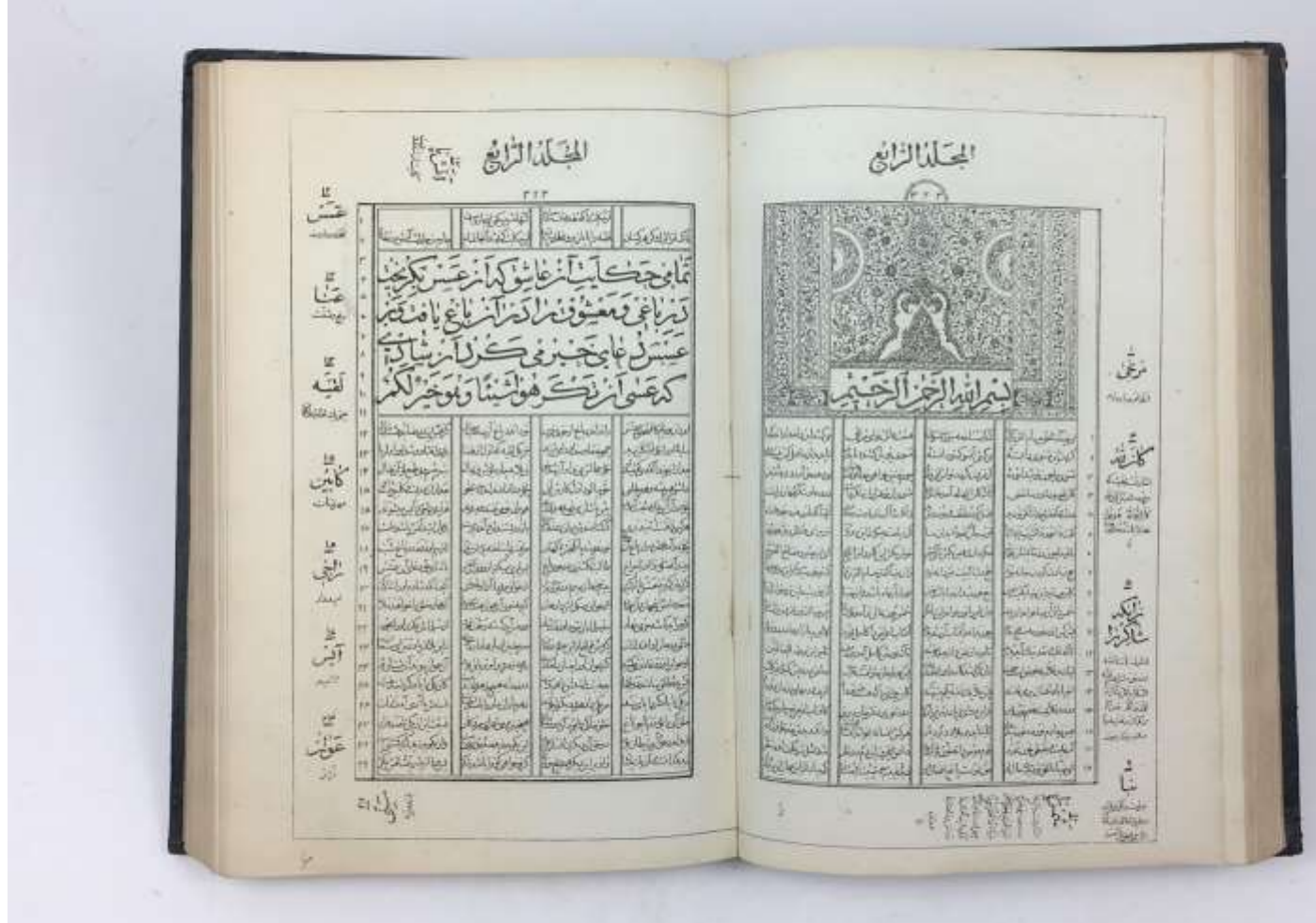
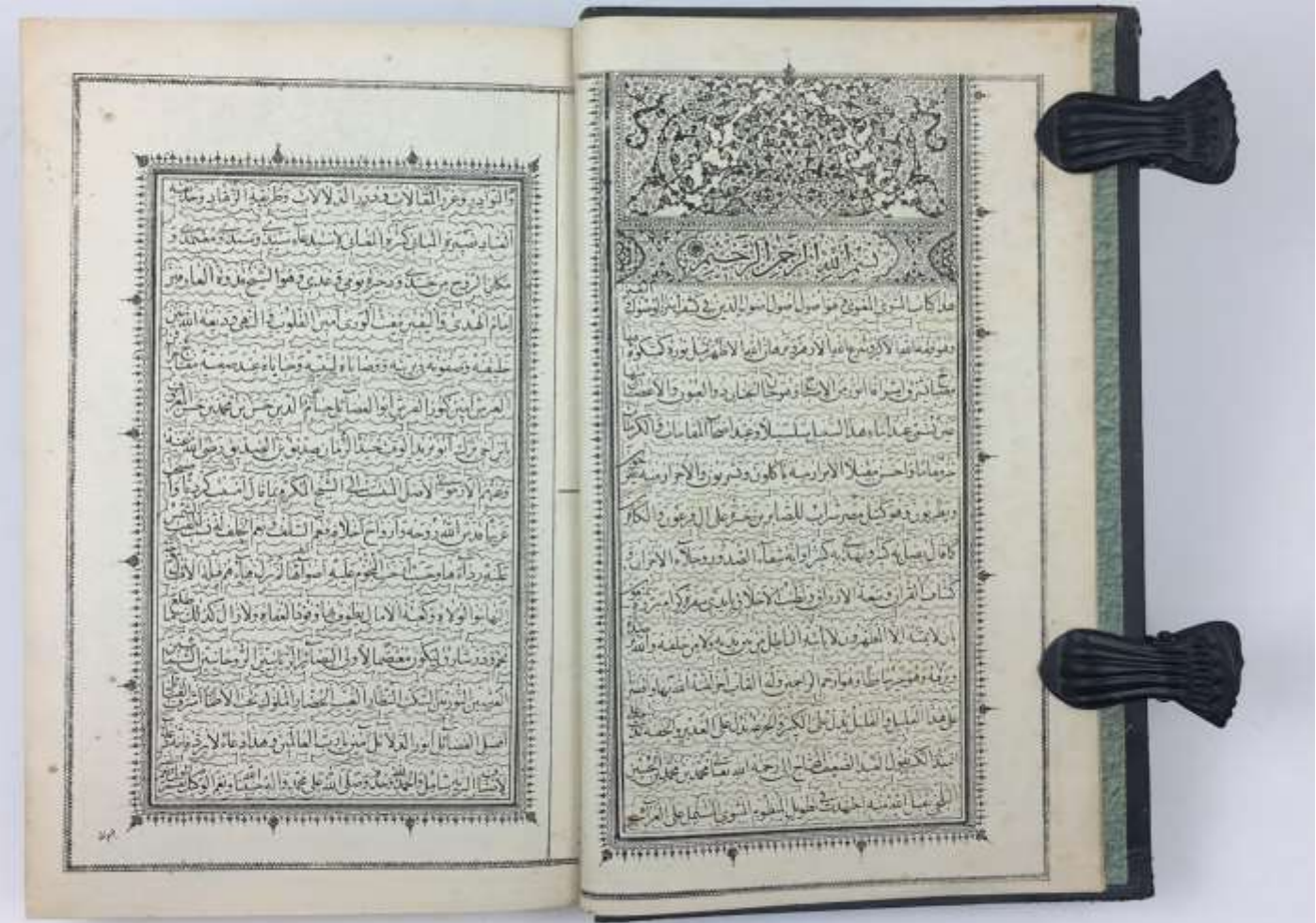
A beautiful large elegantly lithographed Masnavi, a Persian poem by Rumi and one of the most influential works of Sufism. The book was published in Tehran, which is today one of the underappreciated centers of lithography.

We could trace six examples of the book in libraries in Worldcat (Hungarian Academy of Sciences Library, University of Cambridge, Columbia University, HCL Technical Services - Harvard College Library, Bibliothèque de Genève, Princeton University Library).

References: OCLC 1040852643, 234383069, 40672265, 1014665269.

2.200 GBP





5. OTTOMAN TALISMANIC DIAGRAM

Anon.

[Ottoman Empire, probably Istanbul, circa 1890-1900].

A highly decorative large manuscript late Ottoman talismanic diagram with elaborate instructions of combinations of the stars.

Black and red ink on laid paper watermarked 'C. Lustig Pordenone' 50.5 x 37.5 cm (19.9 x 14.7 inches) (manuscript notes in pencil, soft folds slightly worn with tiny holes on crossings, slightly age-toned and stained, old repairs verso, otherwise in a good condition).

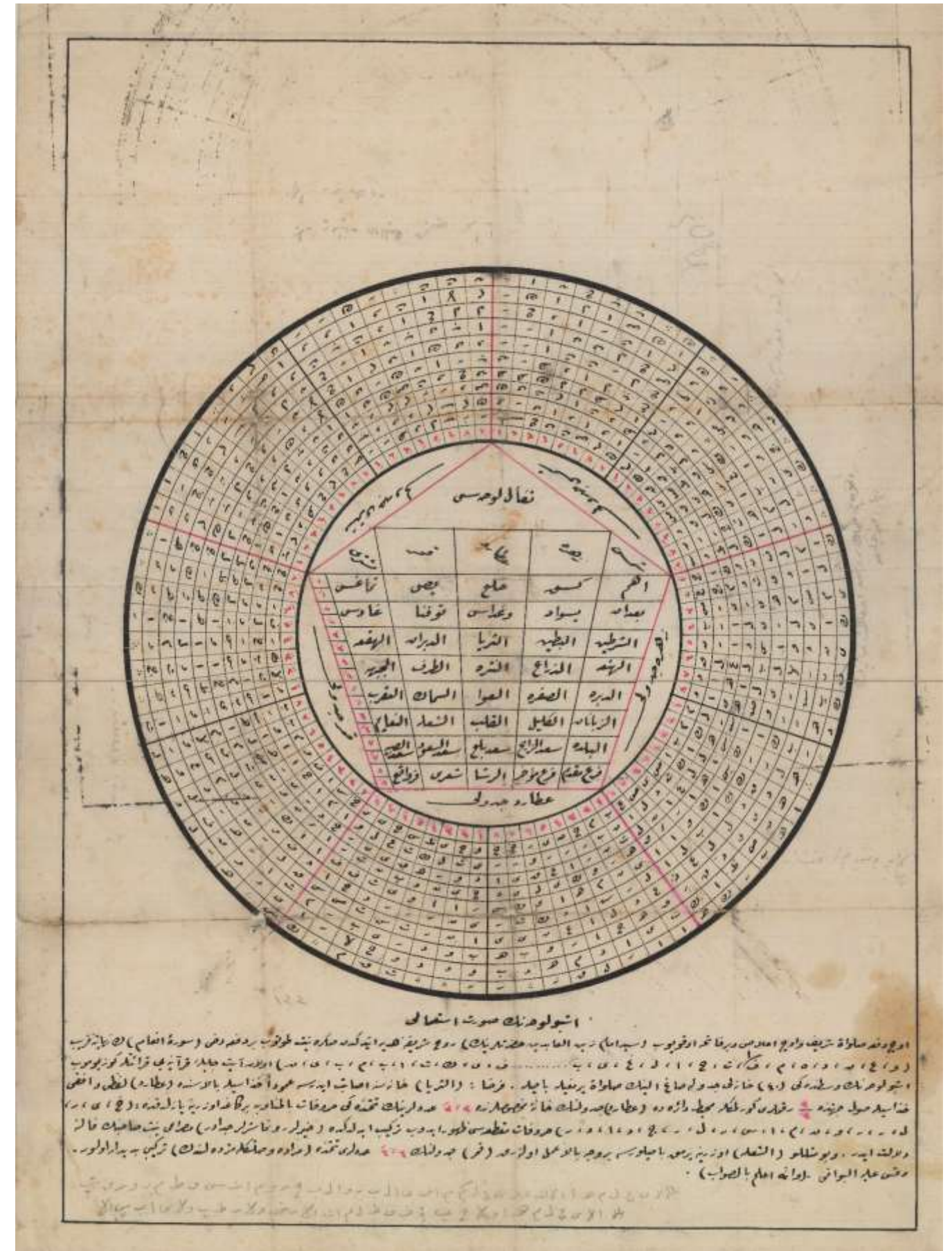
A decorative astronomic diagram gives elaborate instructions in Ottoman Turkish, how to combine stars in groups.

The system is based on an ancient Middle Eastern representation, usually showcased through a circular diagram, of star groups through which the moon moves every night. The star groups are called *anwa* (انواء), and probably have their roots in Indian astronomy.

The diagram is not dated but was probably made in the last years of the 19th century or around 1900. The watermark on the paper is that of *Cartiera Lustig* from Pordenone in the north Italy, situated between Udine and Venice. Carlo Lustig of Trieste purchased the Pordenone paper mill in 1890 and was specialised in exporting paper to the Ottoman Empire through the Trieste port.

References: John RICHARDSON, *A Dictionary, Persian, Arabic, and English...*, 1829, p. 196; Hamid BOHLOUL – Sonja BRENTJES. *The Moon in the Sciences. Moon. A Voyage through Time* (Christiane Gruber, ed), 2019, p. 23.

1.400 GBP



6. ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE / ISTANBUL

Anon.

[S. l., S. d. Probably 19th century].

A sunning unique manuscript architectural diagram of Şehzade Mosque and Hagia Sophia in Istanbul with accompanying text in Arabic language.

Black and red ink and gouache on laid paper, 33 x 44 cm (13 x 17.3 inches) (two facing sheets from a bound manuscript, slightly aged-toned and stained, mostly in margins, tiny holes in the middle fold, small tears and loss of paper in white margins, no watermark).

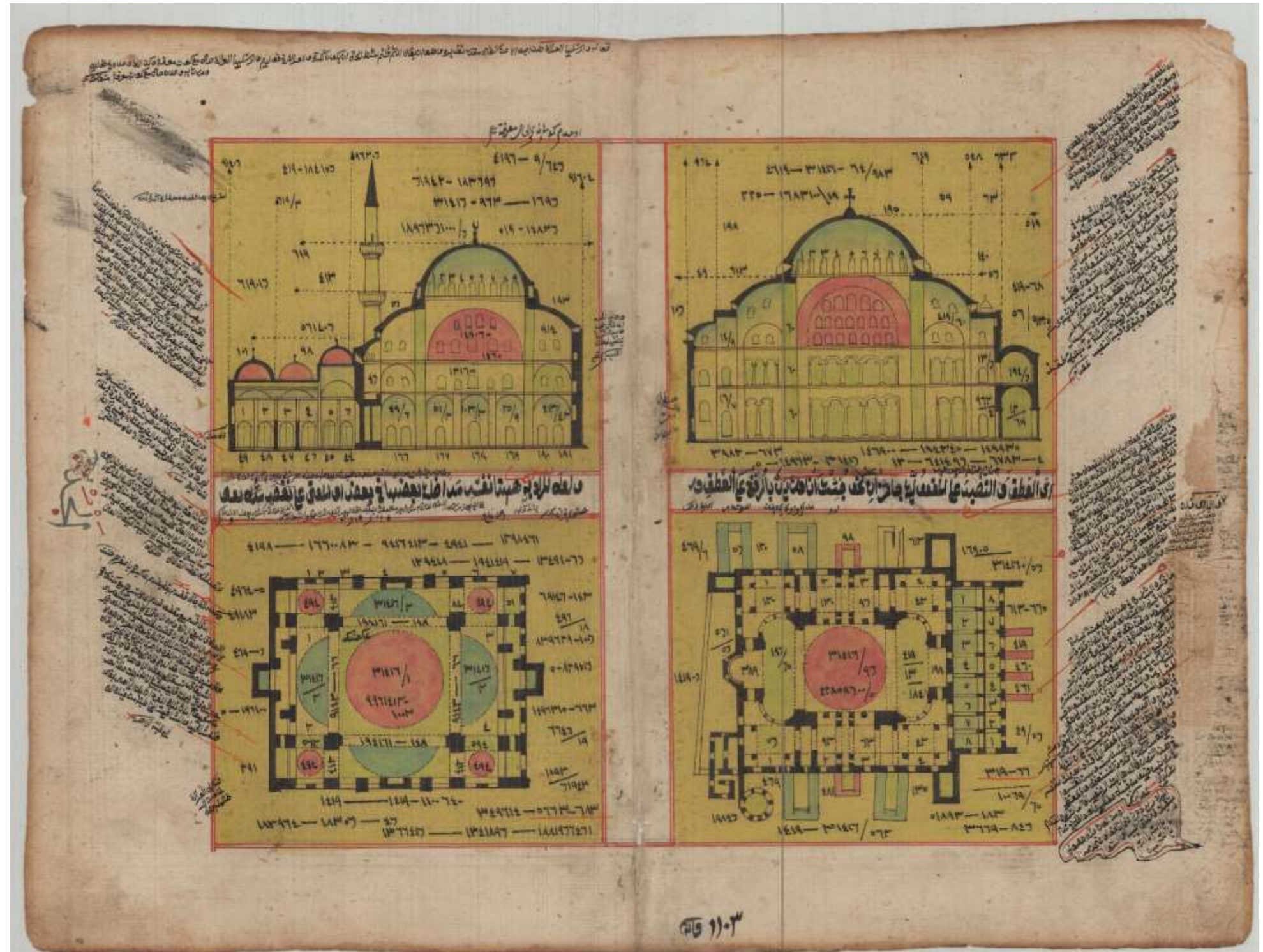
The unusual pages with architectural drawings, annotations in Arabic language and text on the back, come from an undated manuscript. The drawings showcase the plans of the Şehzade Mosque and Hagia Sophia, both in Istanbul. Marked are the dimensions and proportions of the buildings, and different colours concentrate on the domes, their positions and supporting system.

Hagia Sophia on the right-hand side is presented in its original form, as a Catholic church, built in the early 6th century.

The Şehzade Mosque on the left-hand side is presented in its today's form, as built in 1548. Its plan derives from the ancient construction of Hagia Sophia, yet brings the centralisation of the room beyond the scheme of the latter, by placing four semi-cupolas around the main dome, opening the room into a vast centralized hall.

With the literature available to us, we could not estimate the approximate date not location the manuscript was made.

2.800GBP



7. LARGE ORIENTAL COSTUMES

Anon. [prob. European artist].

[Prob. Middle East or Turkey, mid 19th century]

6 drawings. Water colours on thick woven paper, 55 x 36 cm (21.6 x 14.1 inches) (slightly stained, partly repaired tears and loss of paper in white margins, otherwise in a good condition).

A series of 6 unusually large drawings of oriental costumes was probably made by a European traveler in the Middle East. The numeration in the upper left corner indicates the drawings belonged to an impressive series of over 40 pieces.



1.200 GBP



12



42.





8. EQUESTRIAN SPORTS / OTTOMAN EMPIRE / HORSES / MILITARY

Karl Wilhelm von WILLISEN (1790 - 1879), author; Hasan RIZA - Mehmed ŞÜKRÜ, translators.

وايهرن فون هان: قوماندانى لوا نندن ميرالايير سوارى المانيا. اشكالى سواريان الفباى
[The Cavalry Primer. By a German Cavalry Officer Gen. von Willisen]

Istanbul: Mühendishane-i Berr-i Hümayun 1308 [1892].

An extremely rare, beautifully lithographed, small folio size riding manual with Ottoman titles.

Small folio. 20 water-coloured lithographs on thick paper, original blue wrappers with printed covers in Ottoman script, recent binding with brown cloth boards and calf spine with lettering (slightly age-toned and stained, light foxing, small tears and tiny loss of paper in margins, otherwise in a good condition).

This rare, large format manual with 20 pages of handsomely crudely lithographed hand coloured images introduces a military rider to the basics of the horse anatomy, riding equipment, military exercises and manège training.

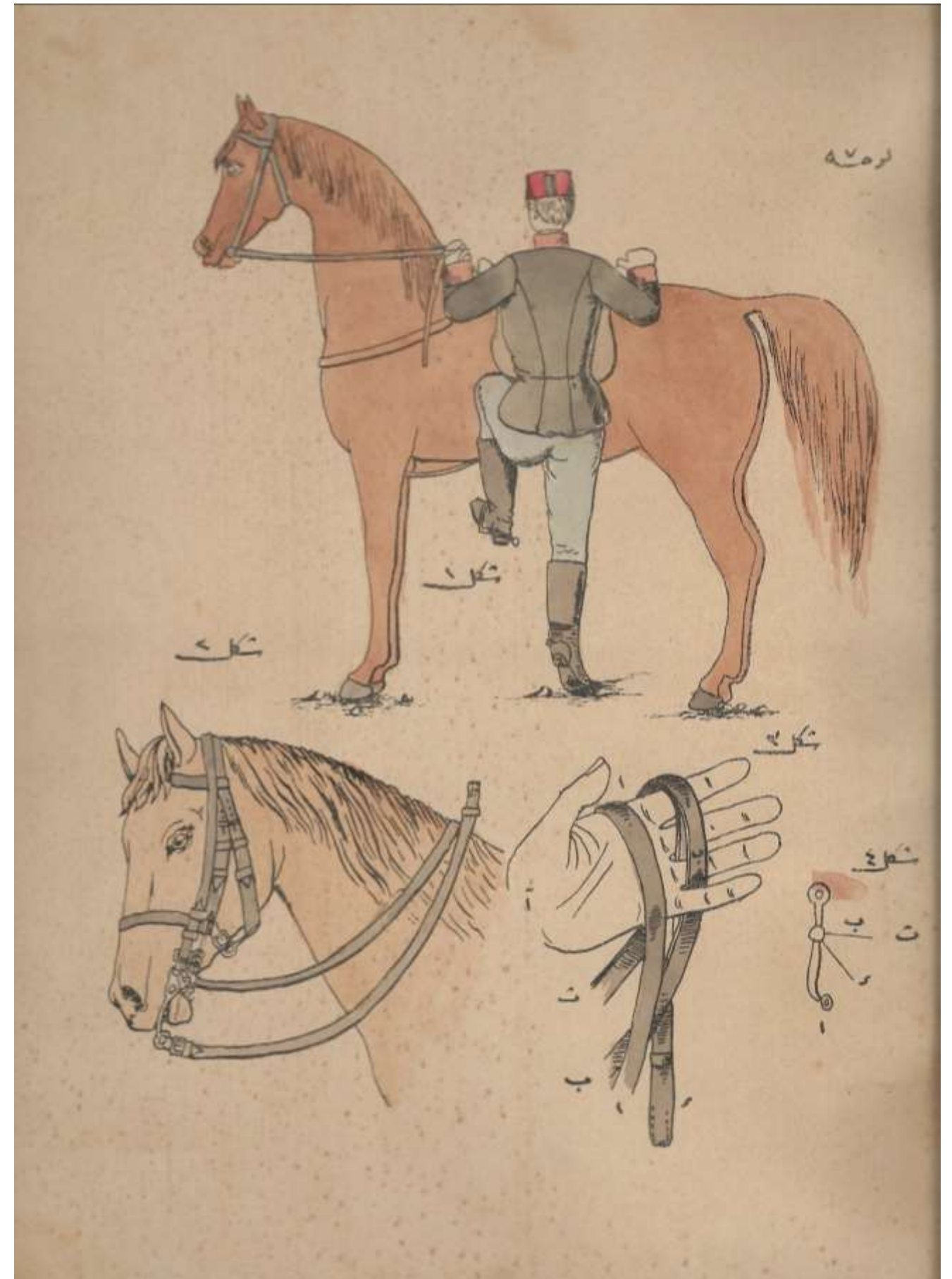
The hand-coloured lithographs with Ottoman titles, seemingly published without text, are based on a manual on riding by a Prussian lieutenant general Karl Wilhelm von Willisen (1790 - 1879) *Ueber cavalleristisches Reiten* (published in 1865, 1873, 1886).

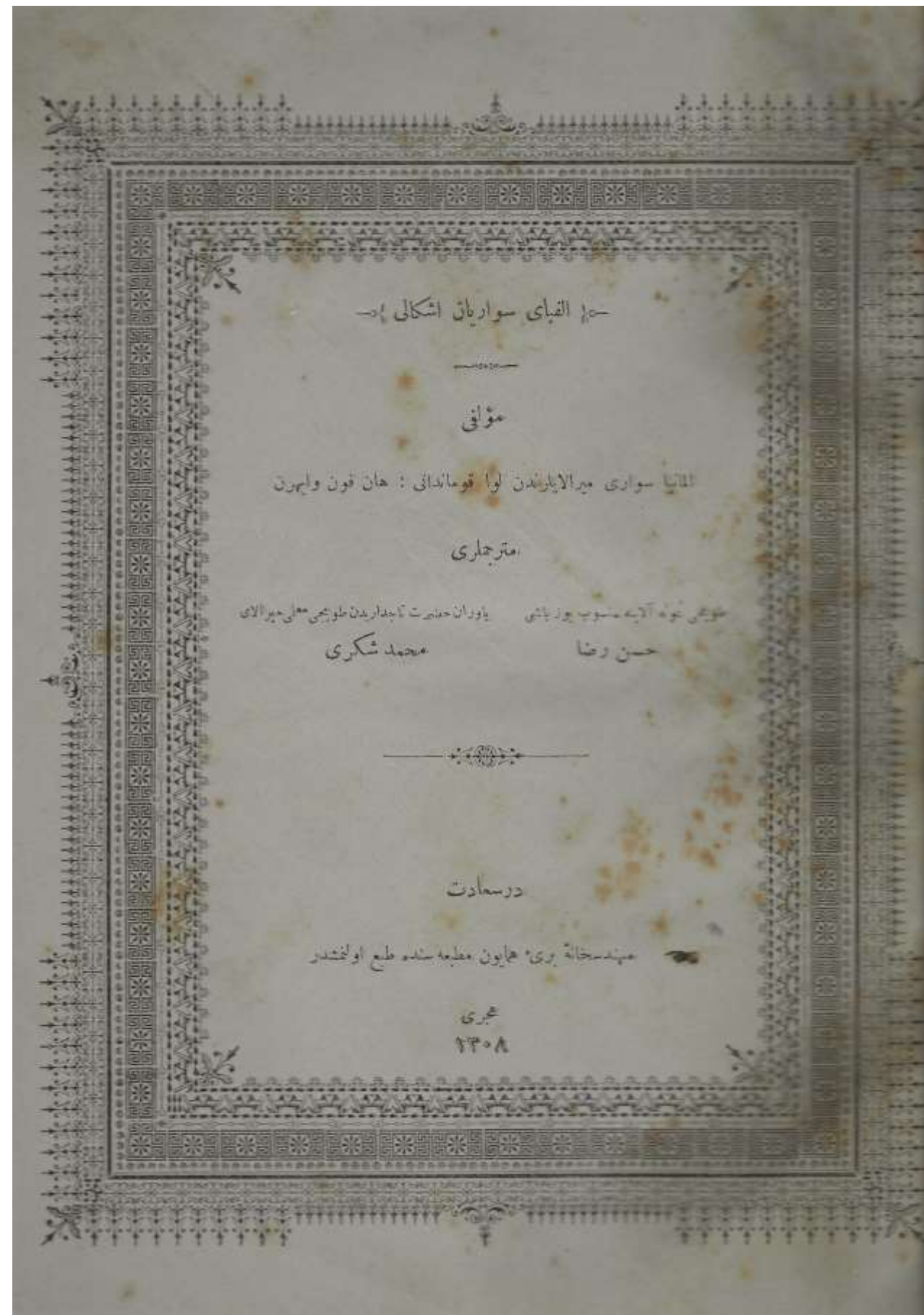
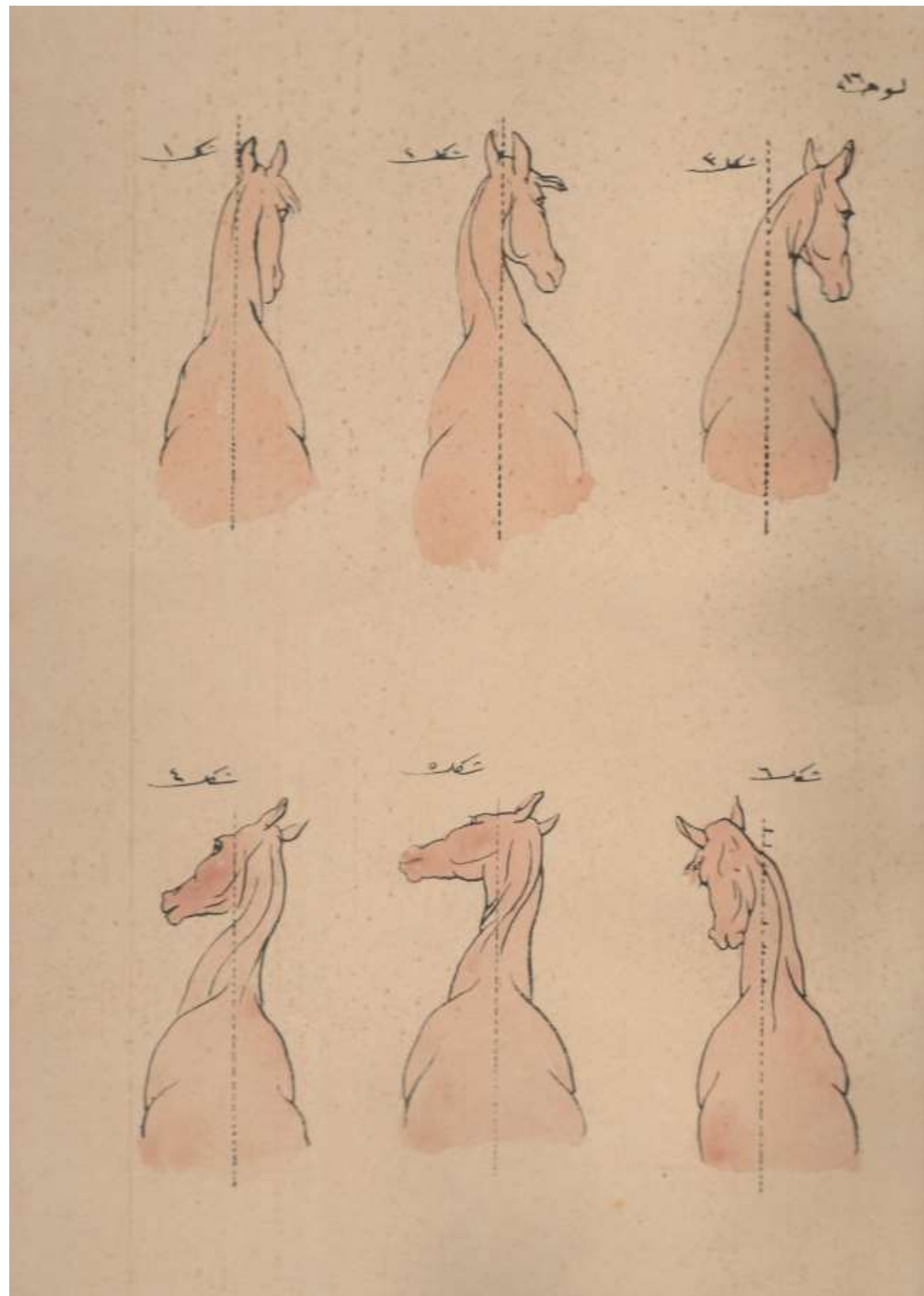
The manual was issued on the eve, when the Ottoman relations started changing to the favor of Germany. With already several important Prussians employed by the Ottoman government, in the next years Germany took over a large part of the Ottoman finances and railways.

The book was printed by the Imperial School of Military Engineering (Mühendishane-i Berr-i Hümayun). The institution was specialized not only in military schooling, but also in educating civilian students in languages, geology, natural sciences etc. The Istanbul Technological University is a direct successor of the institution.

We could not find references to the book in any sources available to us nor any examples in libraries.

1.800 GBP





9. HORSES / OTTOMAN EMPIRE

تورکيه اردولرى حيواناتى نعل و ميخ اطلاسى

[Atlas of Horseshoes and Nails of the Turkish Army Animals]

Ankara: انقره خريطه مطبعه سى [Ankara Cartographic Press] 1341 [1925]

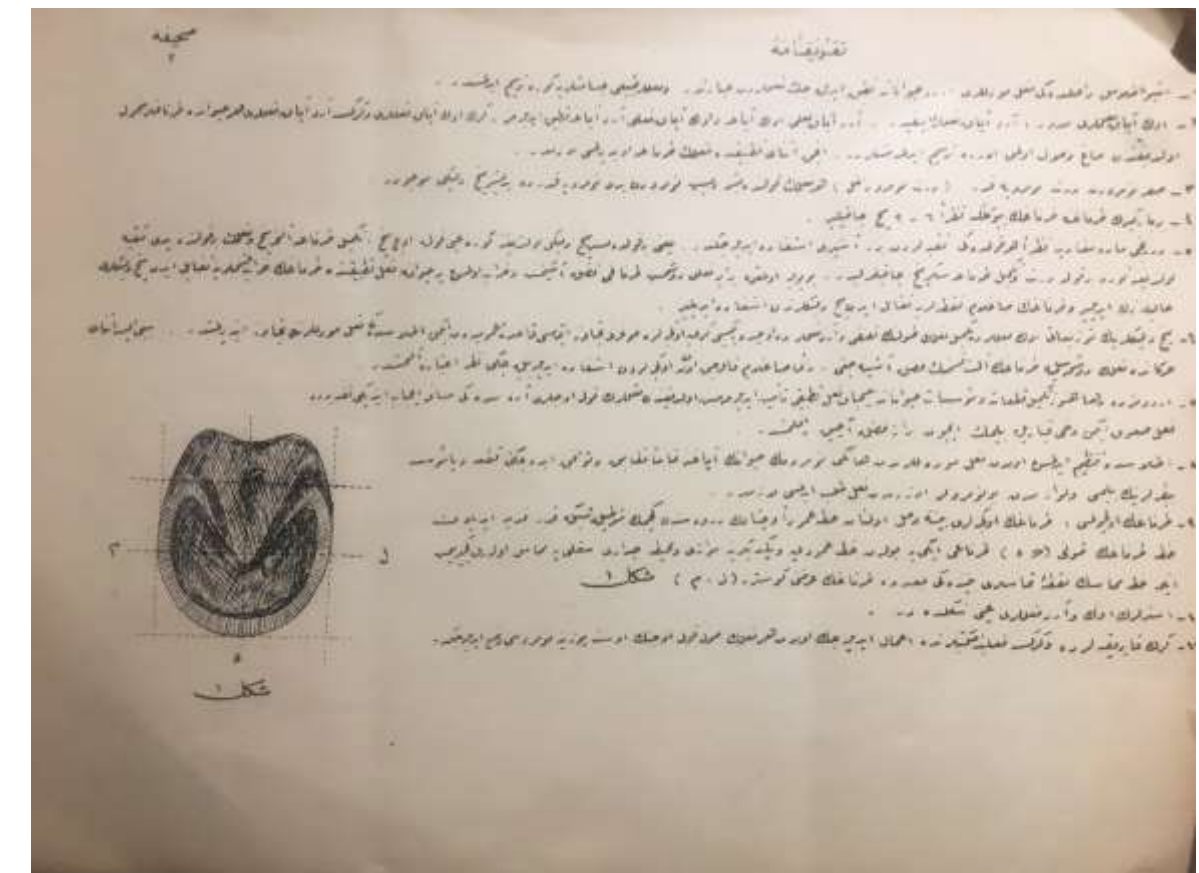
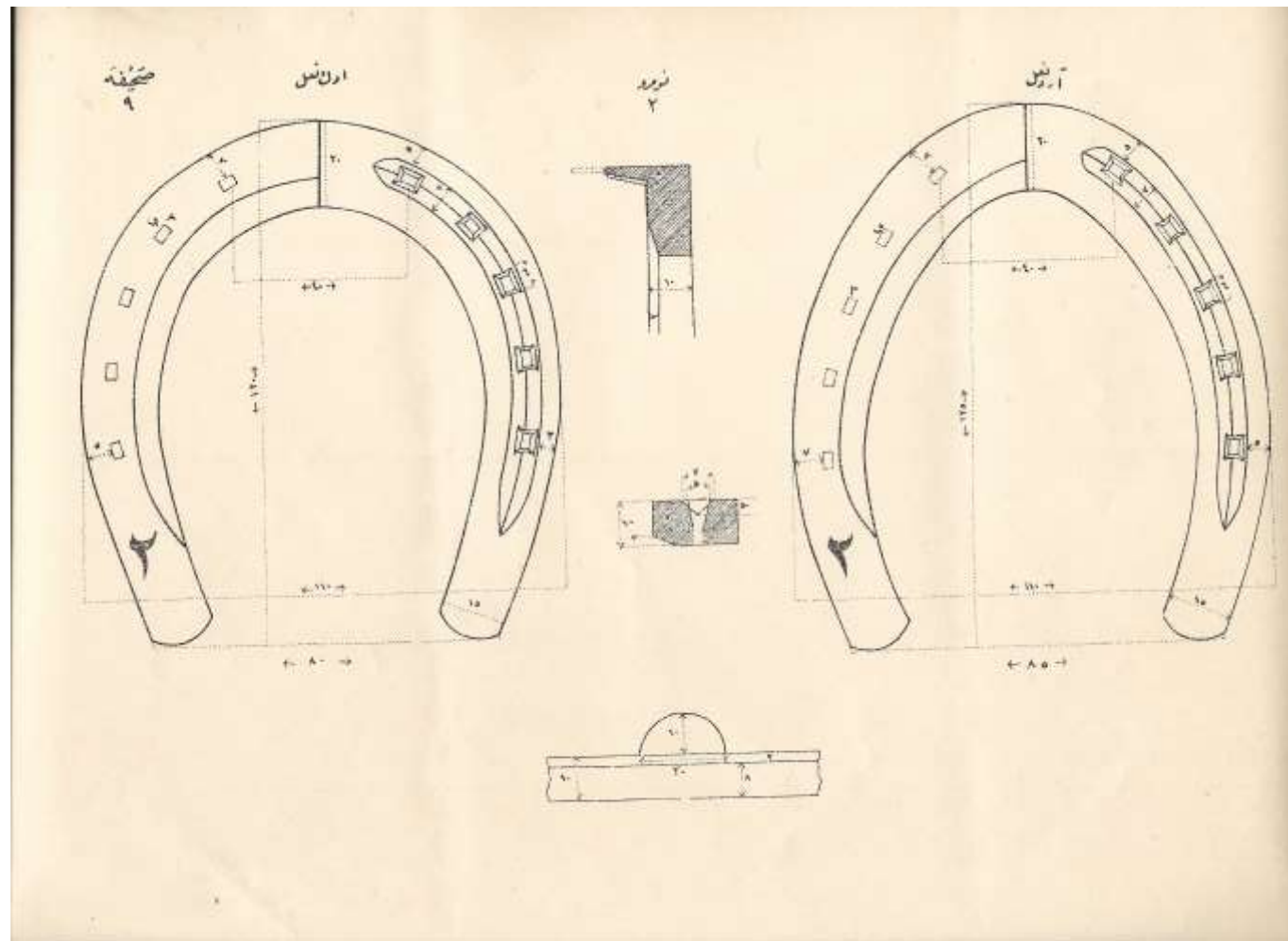
A rare, seemingly unrecorded book on horseshoe making for army horses in Ottoman Turkish.

Oblong large 4°. 17 pp. lithographed text and illustrations, stapled, old stamp and annotation in ink on the title page (small tears and folds in margins, slightly stained, mostly in the first and last page, two sheets loose, some sheets shorter, sporadic old annotations in Ottoman script, lacking wrappers?)

The book with full page lithographed illustrations in Ottoman Turkish includes technical details on horseshoeing in the Turkish army.

We could not find any other examples of the book on the market nor in institutions.

450 GBP



10. AN OTTOMAN TRAVELOGUE INFLUENCED BY JULES VERNE'S *AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS*

Ahmet İHSAN TOKGÖZ (1868 – 1942).

آرؤپاده نی كوردم .معارف نظارت حلیله سنك ر خصتیه

Ce que j'ai vu en Europe. France, Angleterre, Belgique, Hollande, Alemagne, Suisse, Italie, Autriche & Hongrie.

Istanbul: Âlem matbaası 1307 [1891].

A stunning travelogue of Europe by an Ottoman novelist, editor and translator of Jules Verne, Ahmet İhsan, was influenced by a novel Around the World in Eighty Days.

Possibly the first travelogue to involve the Orient Express.

8°.588 pp. with a portrait of the author and xylographed illustrations in the text, [1] illustration, interleaved double page map, original illustrated cover contemporary black cloth boards with embossed decoration, contemporary calf spine with gilt decoration and lettering in ottoman, contemporary pink endpapers (minor age-toning and foxing, tiny tear in the margin of the last page, binding slightly worn, in general in a good condition).

This unusual, richly illustrated travelogue of Europe by Ahmet İhsan, published in Ottoman script in 1891, describes the author's trip in 1890. The book is richly illustrated with images of cities, buildings and people of Europe, as modern curiosities, seen by an Ottoman, a map of author's travels and a portrait of Ahmet İhsan.

The map shows the author's route, which marks the author travel from Istanbul to Marseille, Paris, London, Belgium, the Netherlands, Hamburg, Berlin, Frankfurt, Switzerland, from North Italy to Trieste, and then with a train to Vienna

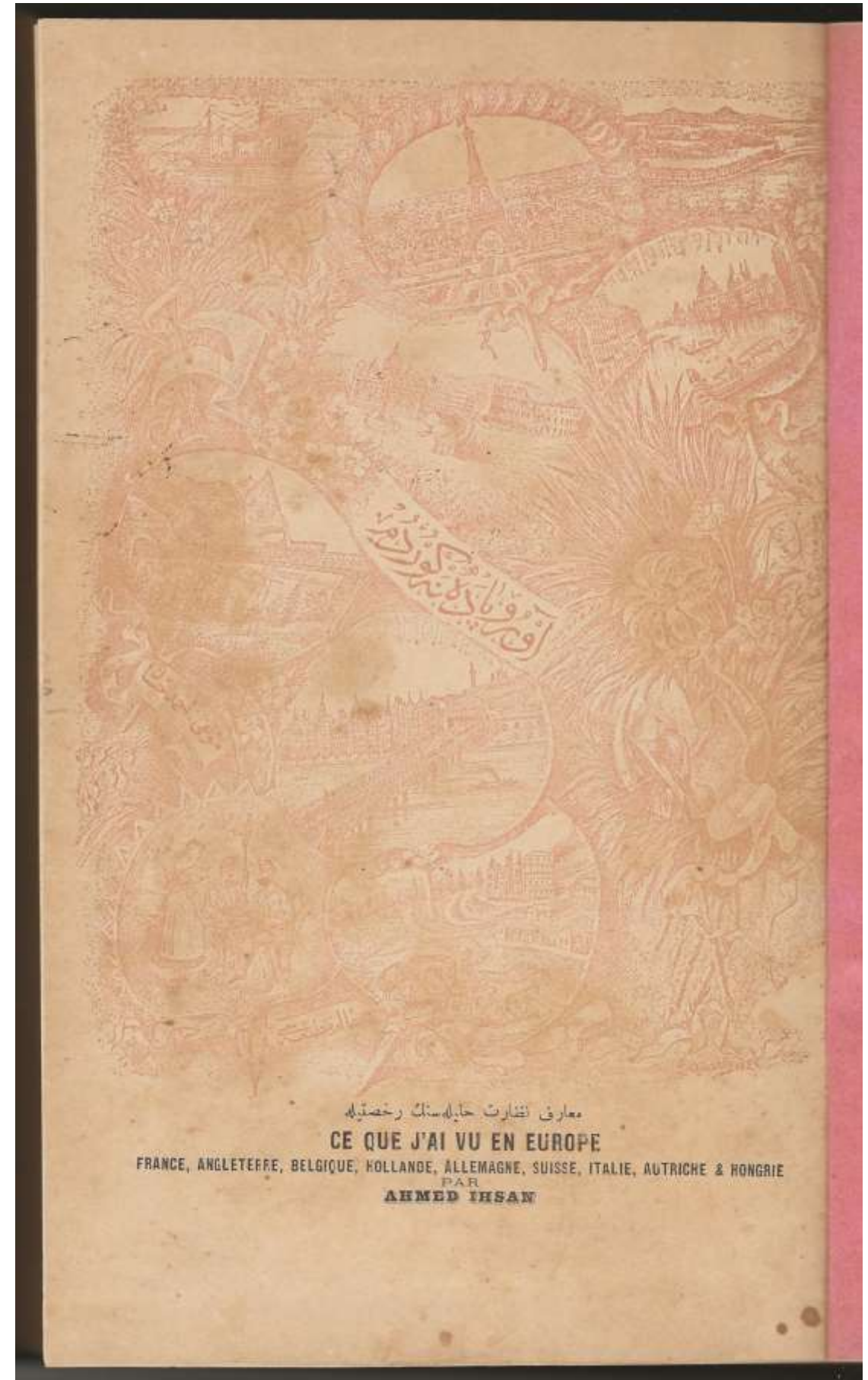
The lithographed title page showcases modern means of transportation, such as a steamboat, train, and a coach, the author was using during his trip, and European cities, such as London, Venice and Rome. The title page is followed a list of works by Ahmet İhsan, including 8 novels by Jules Verne, which influenced İhsan's trip of Europe.

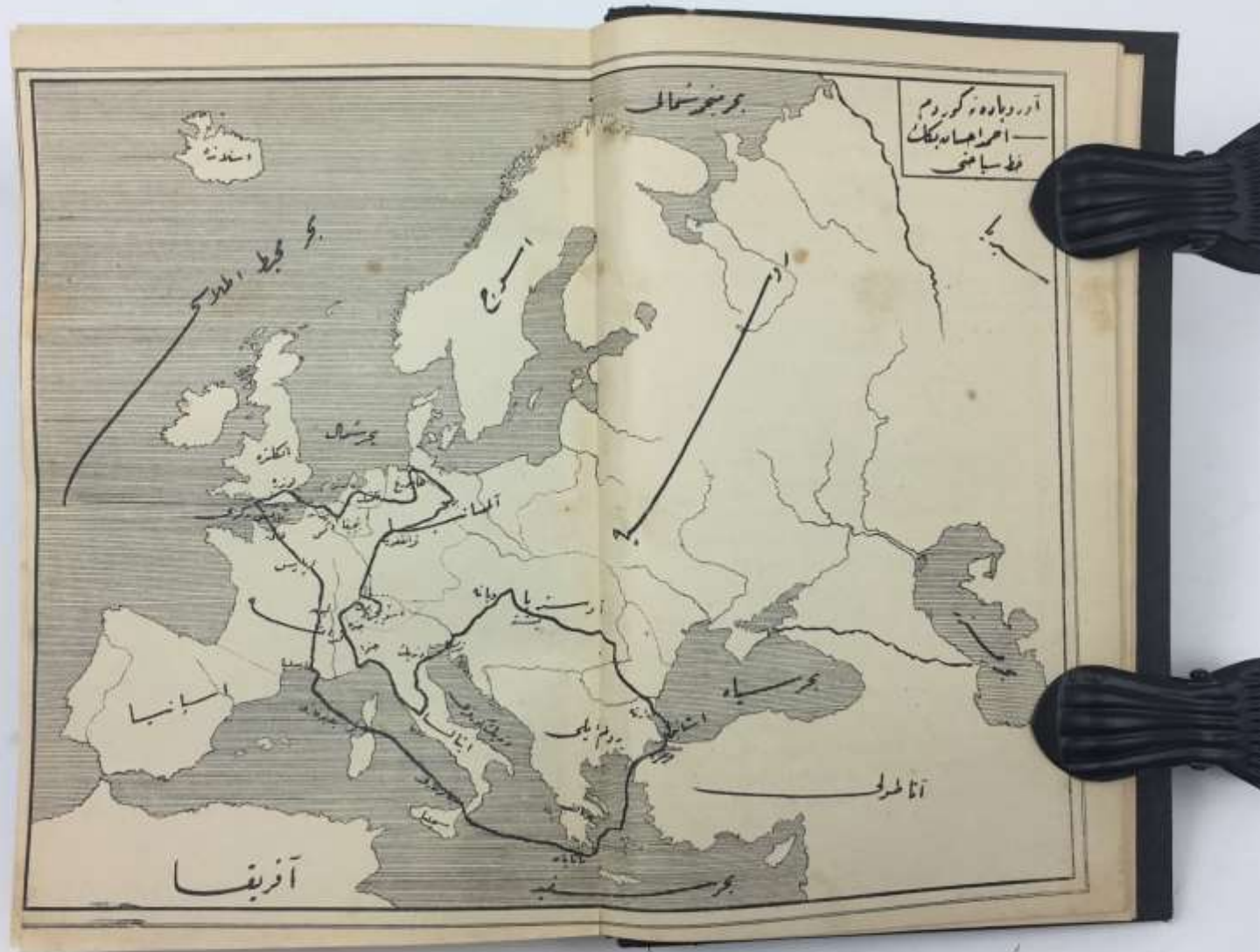
Around the World in Eighty Days and İhsan's Voyage

Ahmet İhsan was a great admirer of Jules Verne and the first translator to of Verne's texts to Ottoman. Still today Jules Verne's texts are highly popular in Turkey thank to Ahmet's late 19th century translations.

İhsan's travel to Europe was heavily influenced by the novel *Around the World in Eighty Days*, which was first published in 1873, and translated to Ottoman by İhsan in 1890, in the year, when he decided to undertake the travel.

It was not the wanderlust, which triggered the need in İhsan to begin his own travel adventure, but the progress in the development of the new transportation system.





What enabled Phileas Fogg to make his journey around the world in 80 days, were the newly opened travel routes, such as the First Transcontinental Railroad in America (1869), the opening of the Suez Canal (1869) and the linking of the Indian railways across the sub-continent (1870).

Europe also had new transportation routes, such as railway connections and most important for Istanbul, the newly opened line of the Orient Express, which connected Istanbul via a short sea trip through Varna to Vienna in 1889.

Ahmet İhsan travelled Europe in the quickest way possible at the time. He took an established sea route to Marseille from Istanbul, a train to Paris, he travelled per ferries and trains through London to the north of Germany, with new train lines through Germany to Switzerland, where he changed for a coach to travel through the Alps, took a ferry to Trieste, from there travelled to Vienna with a train connection opened in 1857, and from Vienna with a brand new direct train line to Varna, and then Istanbul. Only a year later, in 1891, this train line received the name *Orient Express*.

In his book İhsan included images of modern Europe with its contemporary architecture and tourist attractions. He also included an image of a bicycle, which would soon become very popular in the Ottoman Empire.

The journey of Europe, which took Ahmet İhsan to complete in a couple of weeks in 1890 would probably take double as much only a year before, and a few months forty months earlier.

Ahmet İHSAN TOKGÖZ (1868 – 1942).

The author Ahmet İhsan Tokgöz (1868 – 1942) was probably one of the most influential figures of the literature of the late Ottoman Empire, connecting the influences from the West with Ottoman tradition.

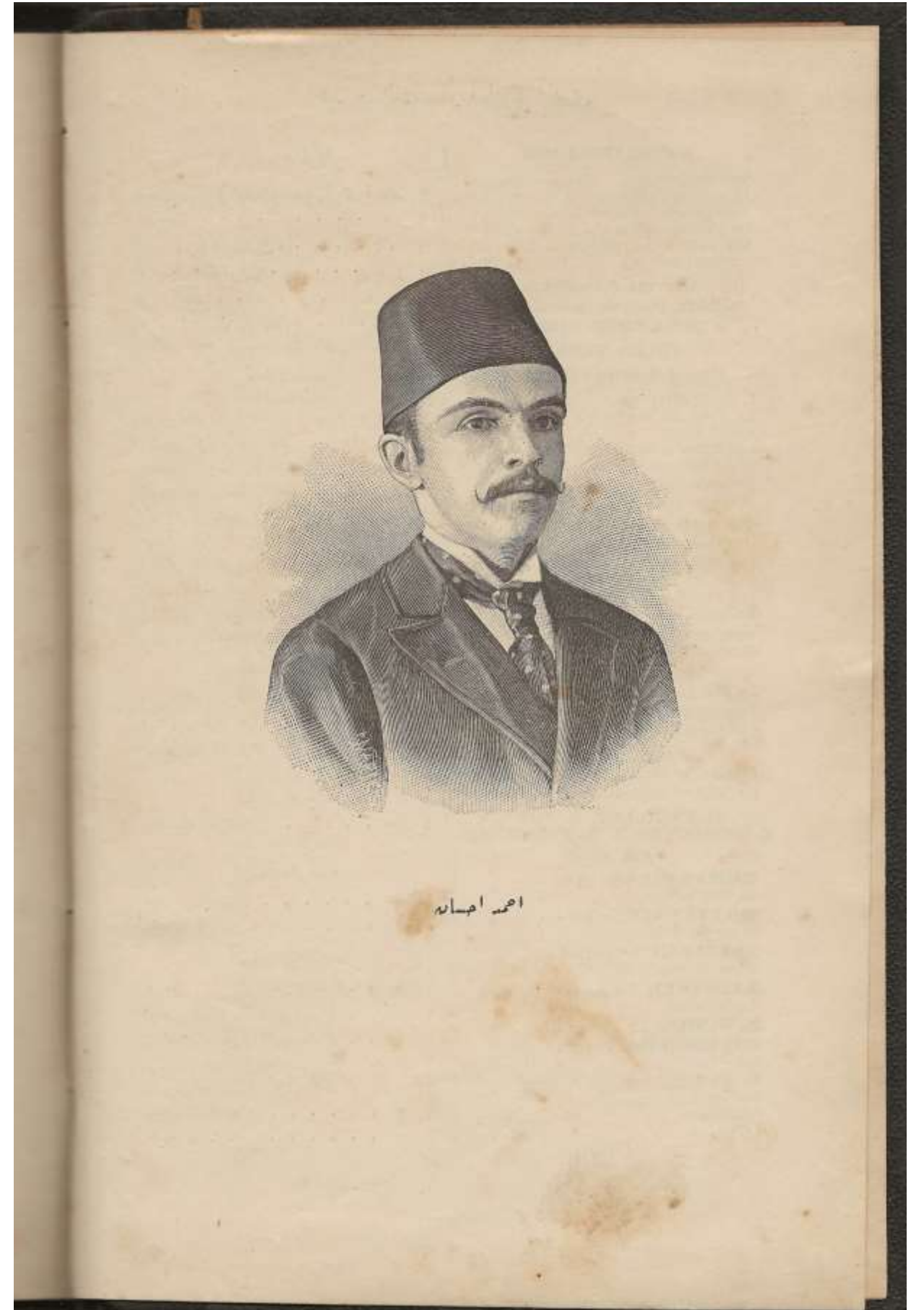
Growing up in Shkodra, Albania, and Damascus, Syria, Ahmet İhsan finished a law degree. A keen translator and a big fan of the Jules Verne novels, he made first translations of Verne's text to Ottoman, starting a new genre of the adventure novels in the Ottoman world.

Ahmet İhsan is also remembered as a founder of most influential Ottoman illustrated literary and cultural magazine *Servet-i Fünun* (ثروت فنون) or *Wealth of Knowledge*, which promoted Ottoman modern literature. He was the magazine's editor from the first number in 1888 until his death in 1942.

We could trace 8 examples of the book on Worldcat. (University of Chicago Library, University of Toronto Robarts Library, Universiteitsbibliotheek Leiden, Bibliothèque nationale de France, University of Oxford, Boğaziçi University Library, HCL Technical Services, Princeton University Library).

References: OCLC 459502523. Aydın SÜER, *Diskurse des Niedergangs: Reflexionen über das Eigene und das Fremde in osmanischen und türkischen Reiseberichten*, 2017, pp. 111-112. Ziyad EBÜZZİYA, TDV İslâm Ansiklopedisi. AHMED İHSAN TOKGÖZ (1867-1942) (On-line version: <https://cdn.islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/dosya/2/C02000637.pdf>)

550 GBP



11. BINDING / OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Edmond-Joseph-Louis **TARBÉ DES SABLONS** (20 February 1838 – 14 December 1900), author; Selanikli Tevfik (1860-1910), translator.

قاتل برنر

[Bernard l'assassin / Bernard the Assassin]

Istanbul: Matbaa-i Ebüzziya 1303 [1887]

Ottoman red morocco binding from the circle of sultan Abdul Hamid II.

8°. 446 pp., contemporary red morocco binding with gilt embossed decoration, white silk paper pastedowns and endpapers with red cloth in the gutter, gilt edges (binding slightly rubbed on the corners, endpapers with light foxing and staining, recent signature on the first blank page, title page with loss of paper in the outer white margin without loss of text, upper margin of the text pages in some parts cut into the numeration in the header, page 441-442 with soft folds, otherwise in a good condition).

The first edition of the translation of a contemporary fiction novel *Bernard l'assassin* (*Bernard the Assassin*) by a French author and journalist Edmond-Joseph-Louis Tarbé des Sablons (1838 – 1900) was translated by Selanikli Tevfik, one of the most productive Ottoman translators of the late 19th century.

Selanikli Tevfik, or Tevfik from Thessaloniki (1860-1910), was the fourth most productive translator of the Western texts to Ottoman in the late 19th century, following hmed İhsan, Ahmed Midhat Efendi and Mustafa Refik

The Binding

An elegant Ottoman red morocco binding, decorated with gilt tooling, bears a supralibros with Ottoman coat of arms and initials CH. The lettering can be attributed to a royal bookbinder of sultan Abdul Hamid II, whose initials AH on book bindings are identical in details to ours.

The book possibly belonged not to a person, but to one of the many royal palaces or institutions, founded by or belonging to Abdul Hamid II, with initials marking the name of the place. The sultan was known as a fond reader of populist novels and translations of foreign fiction.

We could find one institutional copy (Boğaziçi University Library).

References: OCLC 949548218. Ayşe Banu KARADAĞ, Telif 8, 10. Türk Çeviri Tarihimizde “Mütercim” Selanikli Tevfik (Translator Selanikli Tevfik In Our Turkish Translation History), 2013, pp. 355-363.

1.500 GPB



12. OTTOMAN EMPIRE / BOOK BINDING

Anon.

[S. n., S. d. Possibly Istanbul: circa 1890].

A highly decorative Ottoman portfolio with initials from the circle or institution of sultan Abdul Hamid II.

Large 4°. Green morocco binding with gilt embossed decoration, dark green calf spine, inside white silk paper pastedowns (slightly rubbed and stained, white paper inside with minor foxing, otherwise in a good condition).

An elegant Ottoman portfolio, bound in green morocco and richly decorated with gilt tooling, bears a supralibros with Ottoman coat of arms and initials CH, accompanied with a crown.

The lettering can be attributed to a royal bookbinder of sultan Abdul Hamid II, whose initials AH on book bindings in red morocco are identical in details to ours.

The portfolio possibly belonged not to a person, but to one of the many royal palaces or institutions, founded by Abdul Hamid II. The sultan was known for his generous foundations of numberless libraries and offices, which would have a right to use a royal crown on the book bindings.

1.200 GPB



THREE OTTOMAN MEDICAL BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY OF ABDUL HAMID II

See items 13, 14 and 15.

Presented are three medical books with a tughra of sultan Abdul Hamid II. Although a part of a series with sequential pagination, each book is a unit in itself, describing a different type of diseases with its own title and index.

The Celebrated Library of Sultan Abdul Hamid II

Sultan Abdul Hamid II (reigned 1876 – 1909) assembled one of the finest and most celebrated libraries of the era. A highly literate and intellectually curious man, the Sultan was an ardent bibliophile who spent many hours each week ordering and reading books. Although his library was rich with contemporary scientific titles and the time of Abdul Hamid's rule was known for its progressive literature, the sultan himself preferred reading popular literature.

Most of his books were bound in signature red morocco or red cloth bindings, giltdebossed with his Tughra and elaborate designs (such as the works on the photo). He assembled his collection, which is thought to have numbered approximately 10,000 volumes, into four libraries located at his favoured residence, Constantinople's Yildiz Palace.

Books from his library, including those with the red covers and his tughra, were widely dispersed during this lifetime. He had a habit of taking books directly off his shelves and granting them as gifts to visitors. He also sent many books as diplomatic presents.

Notably, in 1884, the Sultan bequeathed 400 volumes to the Library of Congress, with each richly-bound tome featuring the inscription: "Gift made by H.I. M. the Sultan Abdul-Hamid II to the national library of the United States of America through the Honorable A.S. Hewitt Member of the House of Representatives A.H. 1302-1884 A.D." Additionally, the Sultan sponsored the establishment of 46 libraries in Constantinople, many of which survive to this day.

Abdul Hamid II was overthrown by the 'Young Turks' in 1909, who deaccessioned his library. The books were given or sold to a wide variety of individuals and institutions all around Europe. A large number of the books from the Yildiz Palace were transferred to the University of Istanbul. Examples of books from the Sultan's library occasionally appear on the market today, where they are highly prized for their august provenance, exquisite bindings, as well as their often-engaging content.



13. MEDICINE / OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Adolf von STRÜMPELL (1853-1925), author; Feyzi Pasha (Feyzullah İzmidî, 1845-1923), translator.

الم أمراض داخيه. امراض اعضاى دورانيه. Maladies des Organes Circulatoires

[Diseases of Internal Medicine. Diseases of Circulatory System. Part 1, Volume 3]

Istanbul: Mahmud Bey Matbaası, 1305 - 1308 [1888 - 1891].

A medical book in a red morocco binding with a tughra of sultan Abdul Hamid II.

8°. [1], pp. 573-702 with black and white illustrations within text, [2] index, contemporary morocco binding with gilt decoration, marked as vol. 4, gilt edges, patterned faux-silk paper pastedowns and endpapers with red cloth gutter (as usually lacking wrappers, endpapers slightly stained, binding slightly scuffed with tiny losses on the edges and spine).

A rare first edition of the Ottoman translation of the medical book on internal diseases in German language was published in parts between 1888 and 1891. The original, written by a German doctor Adolf von Strümpell (1853-1925) *Lehrbuch der Speciellen Pathologie und Therapie der inneren Krankheiten. Für Studierende und Aerzte*, was published in 1883/1884 in two volumes in Leipzig.

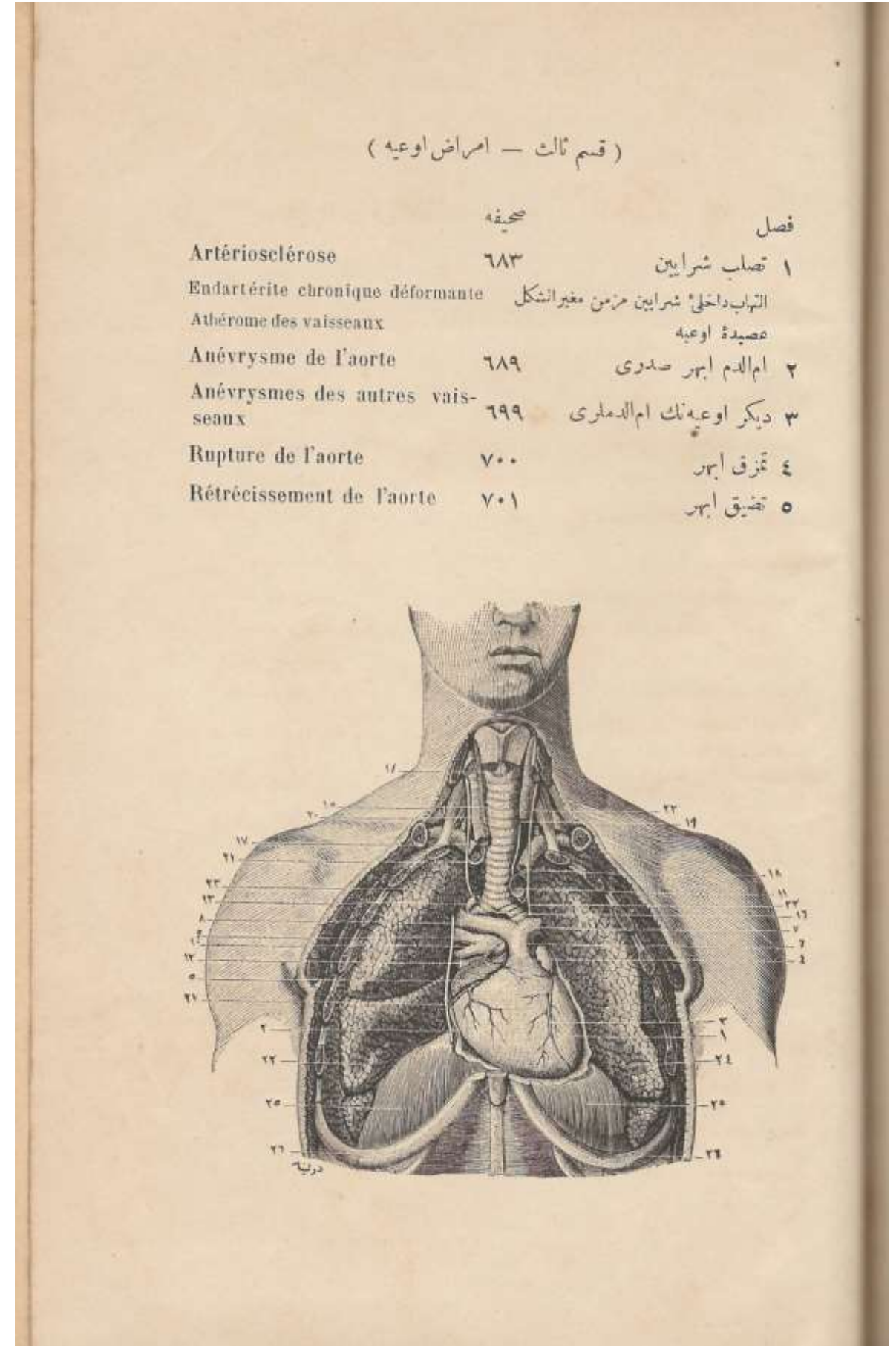
This volume, with black and white diagrams and one illustration in the index, explains the heart and artery diseases.

The translator was Feyzi Pasha (Feyzullah İzmidî, 1845-1923), a medical doctor, who is known as a researcher of cholera in Damascus at the epidemic of 1903. The Damascus Medical Faculty has been based on the Feyzi Pasha's medical office for researches.

We could only trace one complete series of the Ottoman translation on Worldcat (Princeton University Library) and no separate volumes.

References: OCLC 25347275. AEKMK – ÖZEGE; 8853. H. Kadircan KESKİNBORA, Osmanlinin Suriye'ye son hizmetlerinden şam tıp fakültesi zorunluluktan mi kuruldu? (<https://dergipark.org.tr/download/article-file/643822>).

1.200 GBP



14. MEDICINE / OTTOMAN EMPIRE / MENTAL DISEASES

Adolf von STRÜMPELL (1853-1925), author; Feyzi Pasha (Feyzullah İzmidî, 1845-1923), translator.

الم امراض داخيه. امراض د ماغيه. Maladies du Cerveau.

[Diseases of Internal Medicine. Brain Diseases. Part 2, Volume 2]

Istanbul: Mahmud Bey Matbaası, 1305 - 1308 [1888 – 1891].

A medical book on brain and mental diseases in a red morocco binding with a tughra of sultan Abdul Hamid II.

8°. pp. 417 – 779 with black and white and one black and red illustrations within text, [1] index, contemporary morocco binding with gilt decoration, marked as vol. 6., gilt edges, patterned faux-silk paper pastedowns and endpapers with red cloth gutter (as usually lacking wrappers, first and last page crudely repaired in the gutter, gutter between the endpapers with small wormholes, index with a tear on the inner side, a small worm holes in the last page, binding slightly scuffed with tiny loss on the edges and spine).

A rare first edition of the Ottoman translation of the medical book on internal diseases in German language was published in parts between 1888 and 1891. The original, written by a German doctor Adolf von Strümpell (1853-1925) *Lehrbuch der Speciellen Pathologie und Therapie der inneren Krankheiten. Für Studierende und Aerzte*, was published in 1883/1884 in two volumes in Leipzig.

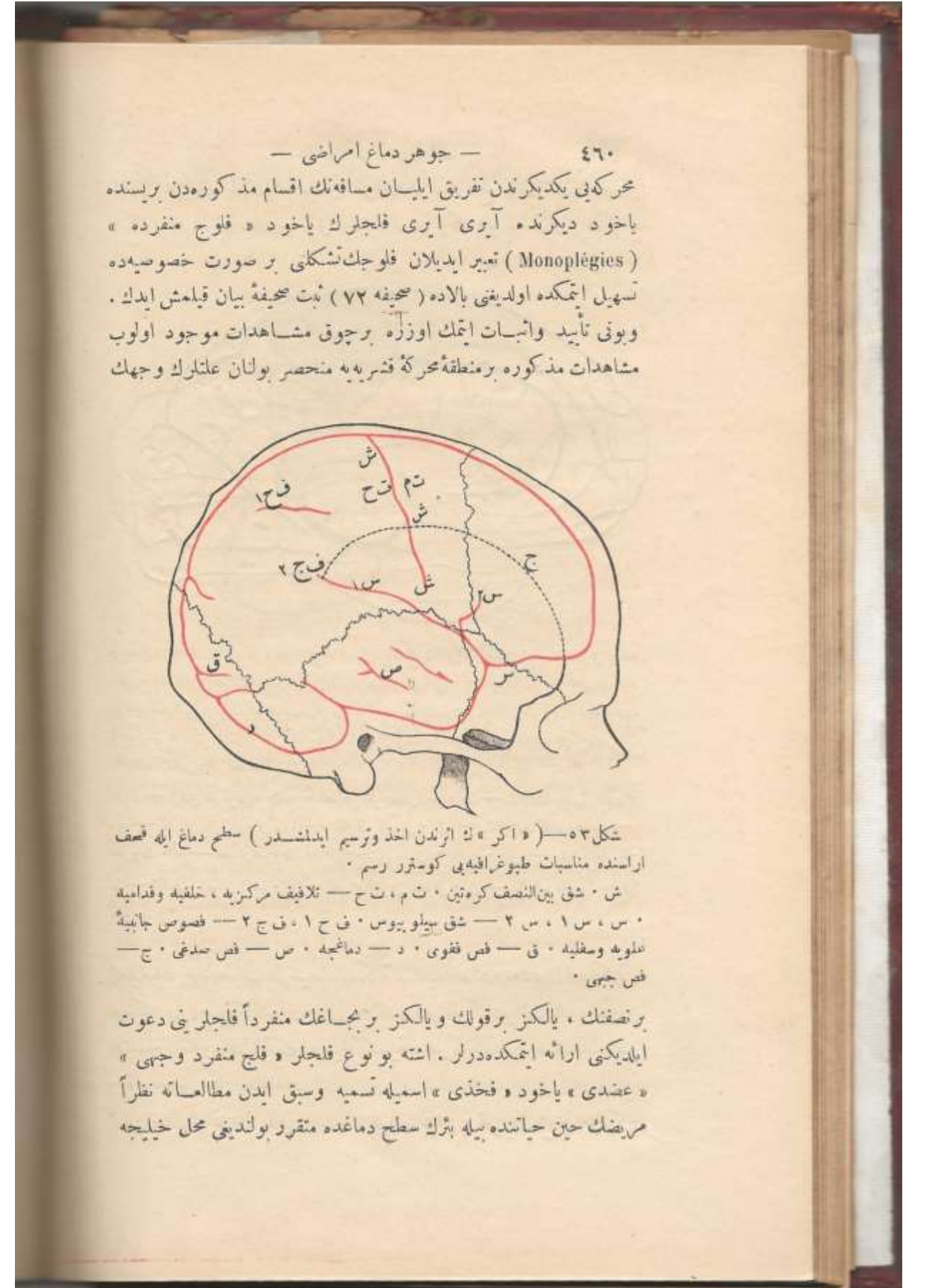
This volume, richly illustrated with images of mentally ill people and one red and black image of the brain, explains the brain diseases.

The translator was Feyzi Pasha (Feyzullah İzmidî, 1845-1923), a medical doctor, who is known as a researcher of cholera in Damascus at the epidemic of 1903. The Damascus Medical Faculty has been based on the Feyzi Pasha's medical office for researches.

We could only trace one complete series of the Ottoman translation on Worldcat (Princeton University Library) and no separate volumes.

References: OCLC 25347275. Özege TBTK; 9768. H. Kadirca KESKİNBORA, Osmanlinin Suriye'ye son hizmetlerinden şam tıp fakültesi zorunluluktan mi kuruldu? (<https://dergipark.org.tr/download/article-file/643822>).

1.200 GBP



15. MEDICINE / OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Adolf von STRÜMPELL (1853-1925), author; Feyzi Pasha (Fezullah İzmidî, 1845-1923), translator.

الم امراض داخيهء .كليتين، حويضتين ومثانه امراض. *Maladies des Reins, des Bassinets et de la Vessie*

[Diseases of Internal Medicine. Diseases of Kidneys and Bladder. Part 2, Volume 3]

Istanbul: Mahmud Bey Matbaası, 1305 - 1308 [1888 – 1891].

A medical book in a red morocco binding with a tughra of sultan Abdul Hamid II.

8°. [3] index and title, pp.783-1084 with illustrations within text, three interleaved lithographed illustrations, contemporary morocco binding with gilt decoration, marked as vol. 7, gilt edges, patterned faux-silk paper pastedowns and endpapers with red cloth gutter (as usually lacking wrappers, front gutter broken, small worm holes in the last blank pages, binding slightly worn, endpapers with light staining)

A rare first edition of the Ottoman translation of the medical book on internal diseases in German language was published in parts between 1888 and 1891. The original, written by a German doctor Adolf von Strümpell (1853-1925) *Lehrbuch der Speciellen Pathologie und Therapie der inneren Krankheiten. Für Studirende und Aerzte*, was published in 1883/1884 in two volumes in Leipzig.

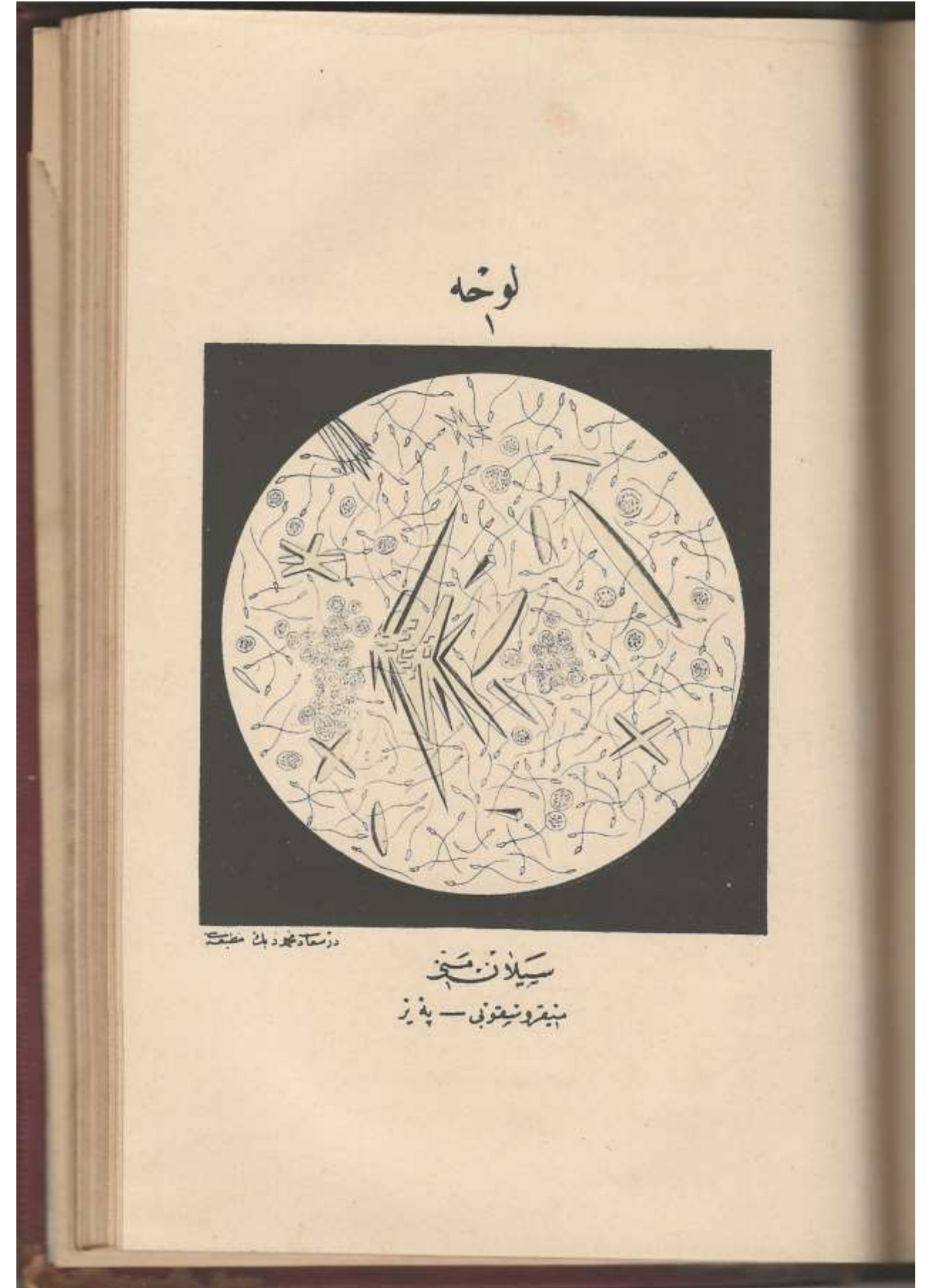
This volume explains the diseases of kidneys and bladder.

The translator was Feyzi Pasha (Fezullah İzmidî, 1845-1923), a medical doctor, who is known as a researcher of cholera in Damascus at the epidemic of 1903. The Damascus Medical Faculty has been based on the Feyzi Pasha's medical office for researches.

We could only trace one complete series of the Ottoman translation on Worldcat (Princeton University Library) and no separate volumes.

References: OCLC 25347275. H. Kadirca KESKİNBORA, Osmanlinin Suriye'ye son hizmetlerinden şam tip fakültesi zorunluluktan mi kuruldu? (<https://dergipark.org.tr/download/article-file/643822>).

1.200 GBP



16. AHMED MUHTAR PASHA (1839 - 1919).

سرگذشت حیاتمک ه جلد سنثی ۱۲۹۳ اناطولیده روس محریه سی

[Sergüzeşt-i hayatımın cild-i sanisi. 1294 Anadolu'da Rus muharebesi].

Istanbul Mekteb-i Harbiye Matbaası, 1228 Rumi Calendar [1912].

8°. 395 pp. in Ottoman script, 11 folding colour and black and white lithographed maps, 1 folding chart, 1 large colour lithographed map 62 x 56 cm (24.5 x 22 inches), contemporary red morocco binding with black insets and embossed gilt ornaments, gilt lettering on the spine, white silk pastedowns and endpapers with red cloth gutters, old bookbinder's label (binding stained, slightly worn on edges and spine, hinges partly broken with boards still attached, back silk endpapers slightly stained, first and last pages with light foxing, some maps with small, partly repaired tears, text pages in general in a good, clean condition).

An ultra-deluxe example of the first edition of the great Ottoman war hero and Grand Vizier Ahmed Muhtar Pasha's inspiring and historically important account of his stunning victories over the Russians in 1877-8; lavishly bound in full red morocco with elaborate gilt tooling, illustrated with numerous excellent custom maps.

Ahmed Muhtar Pasha was one of the towering figures of the late Ottoman period, being a leading military scientist and weapons expert, the hero of wars in Yemen and the Balkans, and later the long-time Ottoman Commissioner in Cairo and finally Grand Vizier. The present work is an ultra-deluxe example of his highly inspiring and influential memoir of his victories during the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-8.

The Russo-Turkish War of 1877-8 was one of the greatest military disasters in the history of the Ottoman Empire. On the Balkan front, Russia and its Greek and South Slavic allies completely rolled over the Ottoman armies and nearly captured Constantinople. However, the situation along the Caucasian front was dramatically different.

At the beginning of the war, General Ahmed Muhtar was made the supreme commander of Ottoman forces in Eastern Anatolia. This was an unenviable position, as the Ottoman army there was considered hopelessly outnumbered and outgunned by the Russians. Constantinople hoped merely for 'damage control', with victory seen as impossible.

However, Ahmed Muhtar employed novel battle formations; the clever use of his limited artillery, as well being an inspirational roll model to his troops, to score shocking victories. He defeated the Russians at the Battles of Gedikler (August 25, 1877) and the Battle of Yahniler (October 24), which led to his promotion to Field Marshal and the award of the title *Ghazi* (War Hero). While Ahmed Muhtar's forces were bettered at the Battle of Alcadağ, he managed an orderly retreat to Erzurum, whereupon he ensured that the Russians were stonewalled at Azizye. Running low on men and material, and receiving no support from Constantinople, he strategically retreated to Bayburt, where he managed to prevent the Russians from breaking through into the heart of Anatolia. Ahmed Muhtar inarguably saved Turkey from being overrun by Russia, making him one of the greatest heroes of the empire.



Ahmed Muhtar published the present work late in 1912 during another period of national crisis. The Ottomans were on the ropes during the First Balkan War (1912-3), whereupon a coalition of Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria and Montenegro had nearly taken Constantinople, while succeeding in conquering almost all of Ottoman Europe. Ahmed Muhtar, who had recently resigned as Grand Vizier, intended the present work to be an inspiring 'rallying cry' to his countrymen, using his own experience to demonstrate how one could battle back against supposedly superior forces to gain victory and save the empire.

The present work is the result of years of preparation by Ahmed Muhtar Pasha, who was a highly talented historian and writer. Beautifully written, it contains the authoritative insider's account of the Ottoman campaign in Eastern Anatolia in 1877-8, featuring critical details that had never been published before. It is illustrated by 11 maps and charts depicted the overall theatre and all major battle sites, custom made under Ahmed Muhtar's direction (he was a great connoisseur of cartography) showcasing what happened on the ground with unrivalled clarity and accuracy. Even today, the work is one of the seminal sources on the war.

In addition to its academic merit, the present work proved to be a very successful piece of patriotic literature. It no doubt inspired Ottoman commanders to go on the score victories in the Second Balkan War (1913) and during the Gallipoli Campaign (1915-6) in the early days of World War I. Mustafa Kemal Pasha, later President Atatürk, was a great admirer of Ahmed Muhtar Pasha and his writings.

Importantly, the present example of the *Sergüzeşt-i hayatımın cild-i sanisi* is an extraordinary ultra-deluxe example. Unlike normal examples, it is lavishly bound in full red morocco with elaborate ornamentation and gilt tooling; it is one of the finest examples of late Ottoman binding we have ever encountered. This example was clearly intended for high-level presentation.

A Note on Rarity

The present first edition of the *Sergüzeşt-i hayatımın cild-i sanisi* is today very rare. We can trace only 2 institutional examples, at the HCL Technical Services Library and the Orient-Institut in Istanbul).

Ahmed Muhtar Pasha: Scientist, Diplomat, Grand Vizier and War Hero

Ahmed Muhtar Pasha (1839 - 1919) was one of the most consequential and intriguing figures of the late Ottoman Empire. He was one of the most successful field commanders of his era, as well as a diplomat, politician, and highly respected authority on military technology and related sciences.

Ahmed Muhtar was born in Bursa, the son of a successful Turkish merchant. He attended the Ottoman Military College, where he was recognized for his exceptional intellect. Having gained his first field experience during the later days of the Crimean War, in 1862, Ahmed Muhtar led his own detachment in Montenegro, where he played a vital role in defeating the forces of Prince Nikola.

Upon his return to Constantinople, Ahmed Muhtar was appointed professor of engineering and artillery at the Ottoman Military College and was sent to France and Germany to learn about the most advanced European weapons systems. Acquiring a profound understanding of ballistics and metallurgy, for the rest of his life he was a tireless advocate of the modernization of the Ottoman military. He was also involved in raising money for charities in the Constantinople, such that he possessed high level of popularity unusual for military officer.

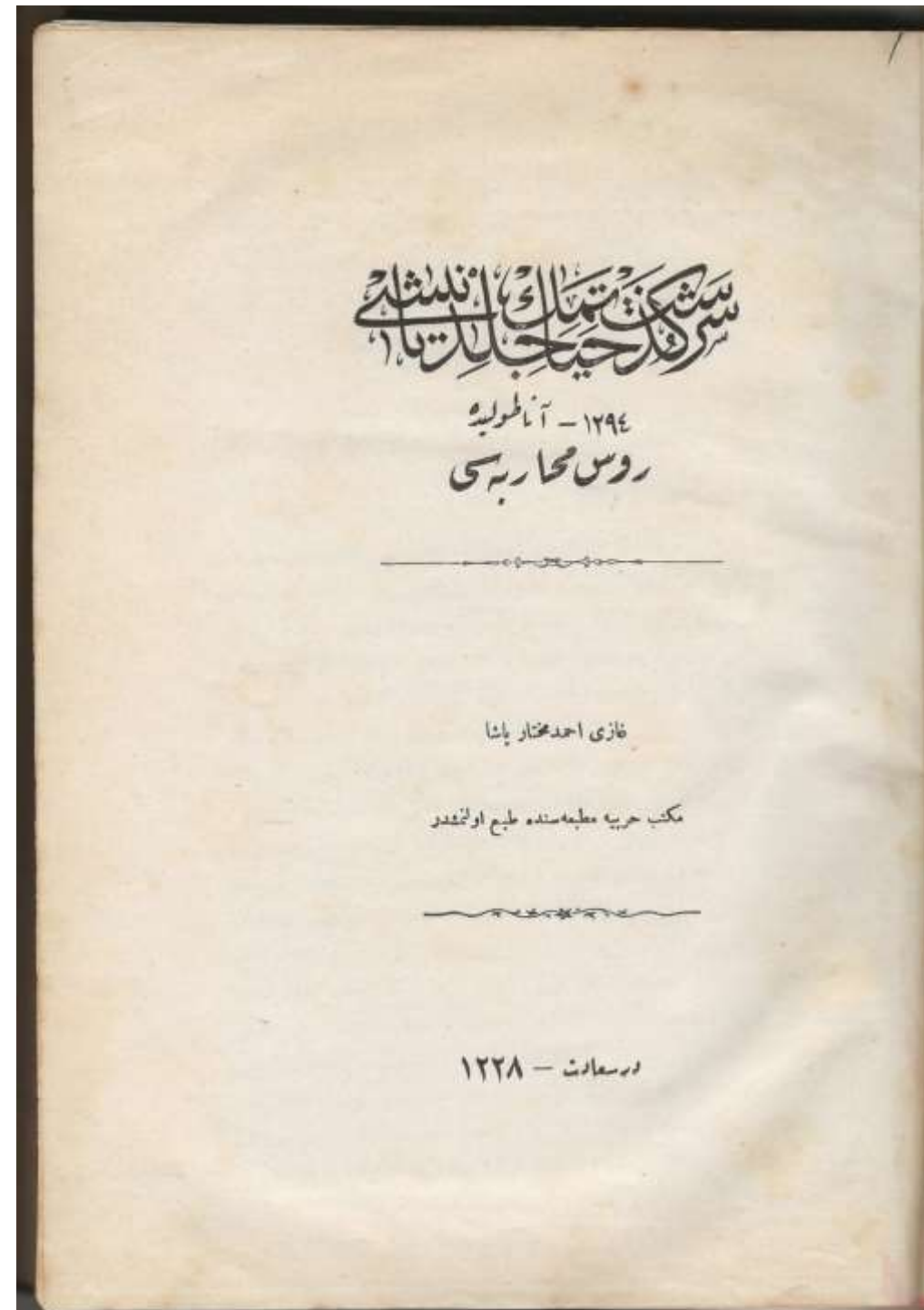
During the same period, he became the tutor to Prince Yusuf Izzedin Effendi, the son of Sultan Abdulaziz, accompanying him on several trips to Europe.

In 1869, then Colonel Ahmed Muhtar was sent to Yemen to quell a long-running rebellion, an assignment that was perhaps the most difficult in all the empire. Brilliantly adapting the tactics of his forces to fight guerrilla warfare, by 1871, he scored major victories, extending Ottoman rule deep into the interior of the country for the first time. He was promoted to the rank of General and made the Governor of Yemen, extraordinary achievements for a man only in his early 30s. Ahmed Muhtar subsequently fulfilled senior staff postings in the Balkans, notably in Bosnia & Herzegovina.

His next great achievement was, as described above, saving Anatolia from being overrun by Russia during the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-8.

Following that, Ahmed Muhtar Pasha was recalled to the western front, where Ottoman forces were collapsing against the combined forces of Russia and her Greek and South Slavic allies. He commanded the last lines of defence of Constantinople at *Çatalca* and *Bakırköy*, until the Russians were compelled to back down under heavy Anglo-French pressure.

Having saved Anatolia from being overrun by Russia, and Constantinople from being quickly seized, Ahmed Muhtar Pasha became the greatest war hero of the Ottoman Empire, and a much beloved celebrity. Sultan Abdul Hamid II appointed him President of the General Staff and the Commandant of the Ottoman Munitions Works, whereupon he employed his great enthusiasm for science towards modernizing weapons systems. His efforts in this regard led the Ottoman military to enjoy much-improved performance in wars over the next 20 years.



In 1882, Britain made Egypt a protectorate, even as it remained a *de jure* part of the Ottoman Empire. While no longer subject to Constantinople, Egypt remained one of Turkey's major trading partners, while maintaining its vital geostrategic position with respect to the Ottomans' remaining possessions in Libya, Palestine and Arabia.

That year, Ahmed Muhtar Pasha was appointed as the Ottoman 'Extraordinary Commissioner' in Cairo (essentially the Ottoman Ambassador) and, remaining there for the next 16 years, he managed the Anglo-Turkish relationship in Egypt with remarkable skill.

In the summer of 1912, the Ottoman Empire was in a state of turmoil. The so-called 'Savior Officers' had successfully mounted a coup against the 'Young Turks', who had themselves taken over the country in 1908-9. Ahmed Muhtar Pasha, as a universally respected 'father figure', was appointed to lead the "Great Cabinet" (Turkish: *Büyük Kabine*) to restore stability. Unfortunately, the chaos that reigned at the Sublime Porte caused the Ottoman army to be caught completely off-guard during the First Balkan War (1912-3), whereupon an alliance of Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria and Montenegro rolled over the Ottomans. Frustrated by the situation, Ahmed Muhtar Pasha resigned as Grand Vizier in October 29, 1912, after holding the post for barely four months. Nonetheless, he was not blamed for the disastrous outcome of the war, which was clearly due to the unpreparedness of others.

It was in this context that Ahmed Muhtar Pasha published the *Sergüzeşt-i hayatımın cild-i sanisi*, which he had clearly been preparing for many years. In telling the tale of his victories of 35 years before, accomplished against all odds, he hoped to inspire a new generation of Turks to rise and achieve new victories.

Ahmed Muhtar Pasha died in 1919, but his legacy survived him. He had published numerous works on military affairs and sciences, which are still cited even to this day. Moreover, Mustafa Kemal Pasha, later Atatürk, the founding President of the Republic of Turkey, revered Muhtar Ahmed and ensured that his example was honoured.

References: Özege 17794; OCLC 77591881 & 888028189.

2.500 GBP



**17. PHOTOGRAPHY / MIDDLE EAST & TURKEY / ARCHITECTURE /
ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Max Freiherr von OPPENHEIM (1860 - 1946) / Oswald SEEMANN / Felix
LANGENEGGER.**

**[A Collection of 30 Original Photographs from Max Freiherr von Oppenheim's Expeditions
in Syria and South-Central Anatolia, 1911 – 1913].**

[Syria / South-eastern Turkey], 1911 – 1913.

A collection of 30 original photographs from the famous orientalist, archaeologist and spy Max Freiherr von Oppenheim's expeditions to Syria and south-eastern Anatolia from 1911 to 1913, consisting of photographs taken by the baron's official entourage, mostly depicting architectural subjects; rare and fascinating works intended exclusively for private circulation.

30 original photographs (each approximately 17 x 12 cm / 6.7 x 4.8 inches), mounted upon blue paper (each 24 x 19.5 cm / 9.5 x 7.8 inches) with punch holes on the left hand side, some photographs with contemporary pencil annotations to verso, and some paper mounts with pencil annotations (Condition: most photographs Very Good, but 1 photograph severely damaged with loss).

This is a stellar collection of 30 original photographs taken by the official entourage of the legendary orientalist, archaeologist and spy Max Freiherr von Oppenheim, during his expeditions in Syria and south-eastern Anatolia, from 1911 to 1913. The photographs were taken by members of the baron's official party, including his photographer Dr. Oswald Seemann, a physician by training, and Felix Langenegger, an engineer and long-time associate of Oppenheim. The photographs mostly concern architectural subjects taken in wide variety of cities and archaeological sites, ranging from Aleppo to Mardin to Urfa.

In 1899, Oppenheim discovered the remains of the great first millennium BC Aramaean city of Tell Halaf, in northern Syria. From 1911 to 1913, he returned to the region with a small party of German experts to excavate the site, assisted by a large force of labourers. During this period, Oppenheim and his companions toured the greater region, exploring mosques, castles, markets and ruins. Seeman and, to an extent, Langenegger, were meticulous about documenting the trips with photographic images. The architectural focus of the present collection is indicative of Langenegger's particular interests, and he may have had a dominant hand in creating these works.

Many of the present photographs feature contemporary annotations on the verso; two photographs are signed by Seemann, while one is signed by Langenegger, while one photograph is dated 'December 1912'. Many of the mounts of the photographs feature annotations on the locations of subjects depicted.





Mardin, Kja. Kebab, Hauptportal.



Importantly, we have been able to precisely match almost all the present works to photographs in Oppenheim's official photograph collection, today preserved (and scanned online) at the University of Cologne Archaeological Institute, please see link:

[https://arachne.uni-koeln.de/drupal/?q=node/197&view\[category\]=overview&view\[section\]=uebersicht&view\[layout\]=marbilderoppenheim_item&view\[page\]=170&view\[caller\]\[project\]=oppenheimdetail&view\[caller\]\[category\]=marbilderoppenheim&search\[data\]=ALL&search\[sortorder\]=ASC&search\[mode\]=detail&search\[match\]=similar&view\[active_tab\]=overview&search\[constraints\]\[marbilderoppenheim\]\[searchKurzbeschreibung\]=orfa](https://arachne.uni-koeln.de/drupal/?q=node/197&view[category]=overview&view[section]=uebersicht&view[layout]=marbilderoppenheim_item&view[page]=170&view[caller][project]=oppenheimdetail&view[caller][category]=marbilderoppenheim&search[data]=ALL&search[sortorder]=ASC&search[mode]=detail&search[match]=similar&view[active_tab]=overview&search[constraints][marbilderoppenheim][searchKurzbeschreibung]=orfa)

Photographs that were taken by Oppenheim's official party rarely appear on the market, as they were made exclusively for private circulation. While a small number of what amounted to 13,000 images were duplicated in books and magazines, the great majority of the photographs have never been published. In addition to their artistic merits, they are valuable artefacts documenting some of the most intriguing intellectual journeys in the Middle East and Turkey during the heady period on the eve of World War I.

We believe that the present collection was assembled and retained by a member of Oppenheim's party, perhaps *even Langenegger, or someone in his circle.*

Max Freiherr von Oppenheim (1860 - 1946), orientalist, amateur archaeologist and spy, was one of the most fascinating and controversial figures of his era. Born into the fabulously wealthy Oppenheim banking family of Cologne, after a wayward youth, he joined the German Foreign Service, posted to Cairo. There he mastered Arabic and became immersed in the contemporary and ancient cultures of the Middle East. While he had scant formal training, he proved to be a highly talented archaeologist and collector of artefacts.

In 1899, he made what was one of the great archaeological discoveries of the era, the *first millennium BC* Aramaean city of Tell Halaf, in northern Syria, full of spectacular and exotic artefacts. He was only able to uncover a small portion of the wondrous site at the time and had to wait until 1911 to return to the region. It was during this period that Oppenheim and his expert team oversaw the mass excavation of Tell Halaf and the extraction of the most prized works of statuary and jewellery, etc. It was also during the period that Oppenheim and company explored the greater region, leading to the present photographs.

Oppenheim was a great writer, and many of his books are today considered classics on various Middle Eastern subjects, of which his *Vom Mittelmeer zum persischen Golf durch den Haurän, die syrische Wüste und Mesopotamien* (1899 – 1900), is especially famous.

During World War I, Oppenheim directed a spirited anti-British propaganda campaign in the Moslem world, on behalf of the German authorities. He published numerous periodicals and flyers exhorting Muslims worldwide to rise up in 'Jihad' against Albion. While his designs in this regard were not ultimately successful, his efforts were nonetheless innovative and spirited (some might say a little 'over the top'). It was also well known that Oppenheim's academic tours doubled as espionage missions.



In 1929, Oppenheim returned to the Tell Halaf area. Shortly thereafter, he had many of his finds moved to Berlin, where they formed the collections of the Tell Halaf Museum in Charlottenburg. The museum was hailed for its unusual and futuristic curatorial approach.

During the Nazi era, Oppenheim amazingly managed to avoid persecution, and in fact was quite popular with elements of the new regime. While he was of Jewish extraction, he was raised a Catholic, and his efforts to cosy up to the fascists, including making the ludicrous claim that the people of Tell Halaf were "Arians", saved him.

Unfortunately, the Tell Halaf Museum was firebombed by the Allies in 1943, destroying or severely damaging most of the artefacts. It is only recently, that many key items had been painstakingly restored and displayed.

As for the engineer Felix *Langenegger*, he was one of Oppenheim's closest collaborators for many years. His writings on Tell Halaf (authored with Karl Müller and Rudolf Naumann) were eventually published as *Tell Halaf: Die Bauwerke* (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter & Company, 1950).

Recently, Oppenheim had been the focus of a number of exhibitions and books. Notably, his photography collection was the subject of a well-reviewed exhibition, *From Cairo to Tell Halaf*, at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin.

3.500 GBP

18. CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

SAUL SOLOMON & CO. (Publishers) / J. ULKE, GENERAL LAND OFFICE
(Cartographer).

Plan of Cape Town.

Cape Town: Saul Solomon & Co., [n.d., but late 1870s].

An apparently unrecorded late 1870s plan of Cape Town, depicting the city in considerable detail during a fascinating period in its development, based upon a survey executed by the General Land Office, and published by the firm owned by the legendary liberal Cape politician and journalist Saul Solomon.

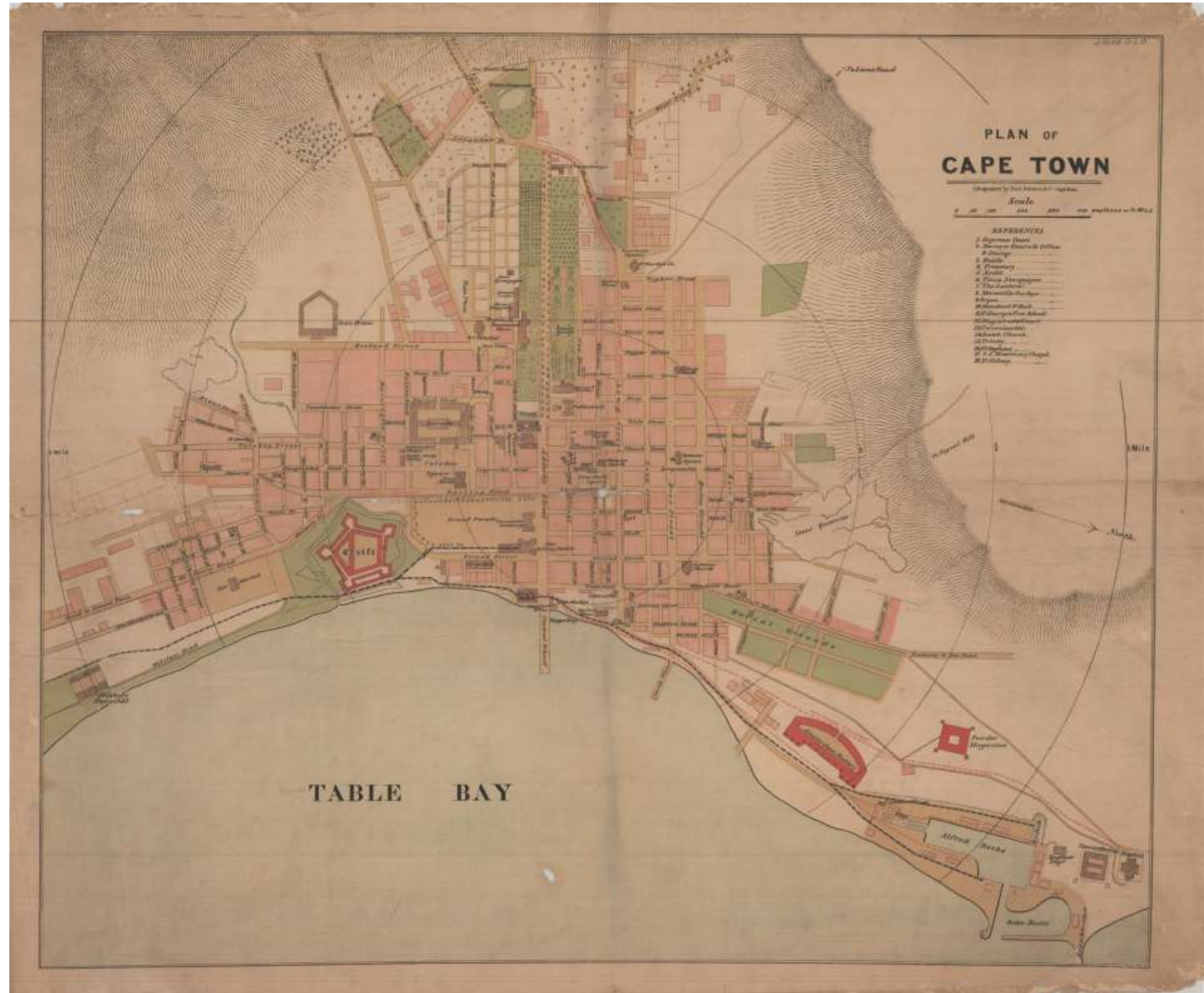
Colour lithograph, mounted upon original linen (Good, some wear and cracking along old folds with very minor loss, small hole in blank space in bottom centre, light staining; wear and cracking to blank margins), 48 x 58 cm (19 x 23 inches).

This intriguing separately issued plan of Cape Town captures the city as it appeared in the late 1870s, when it was experiencing a major building and infrastructure boom. The map was printed by Saul Solomon & Co., then South Africa's leading publishing house, owned by the prominent Cape politician and journalist. The map seems to be unrecorded; we cannot trace even a reference to it, let alone the location of another example.

The map, orientated roughly westwards, with the North pointing towards the right side, the map delineates and labels all streets and squares, as well as outlining and naming all major edifices. Notable structures labelled directly on the map include the 'Jews Synagogue' (founded on that site in 1863); 2 'Malay Mosques' (an Indonesian and Malay community existed in the city since the 18th Century); churches of various denominations; markets; the great citadel of the Cape Castle; the army 'Barracks'; 'Government House'; the Masonic Lodge; and the Library & Museum, amongst many others. Additionally, the 'References' (located below the title) label by numbers: 1. Supreme Court; 2. Surveyor General's Office; 3. Deeds (Land Office); 4. Treasury; 5. Audit Office; 6. Times Newspaper; 7. "The Lantern"; 8. Mercantile (Free Paper); 9. Argus; 10. Standard & Mail; 11. St. Georges Free School; 12. Magistrates Court; 13. Commissariat; 14. Scotch Church; 15. Trinity Church; 16. St. Stephen's Church; 17. South Africa Missionary Chapel; 18. St. Sidneys Church.

The city's waterfront is shown to be in an intermediate state of dramatic development, with the recent addition of new quays and rails lines, while new urban blocks are being built up in on the interior side of town. In all, the map reveals the city of 35,000 to be vibrant and ethnically diverse.

While the present map is not dated, one can quite safely mark its publication to the late 1870s. We have carefully compared it to both an 1865 and an 1884 map of the city, in addition to consulting key textual sources. The map labels the location of the *Cape Times* office, referring to a newspaper which commenced



publication in 1876. Moreover, the map was made shortly after the opening of the ‘New Railway Station’, which occurred in 1875, and after the development of the waterfront in the wake of the extension of the railway to the Alfred Basin, the city’s first artificial harbour complex, which itself was completed in 1870.

However, the map predates the extension of the horse tramway system (here still labelled as ‘proposed), which occurred in the early 1880s, while it does not show the great edifice of the ‘Parliament House’ which was completed in 1884 on Adderley Street, just across from the Cathedral. Curiously, while Cape Town underwent many changes during the 1870s, the present map seems to be one of the only cartographic records of the city from that period.

The present map is predicated upon a recent official survey, with the draftsman’s name, ‘J. Ulke G.L.O.’, appearing in the upper right corner. While we cannot find much information on Mr. Ulke, the General Land Office (G.L.O.), in conjunction with the Surveyor General’s Office, was responsible for creating town plans and cadastral maps of the Cape Colony. As the Solomon & Co. printing firm was often given government contracts, it is no surprise that they issued the present map. Curiously, however, we cannot trace any other separately issued plans of Cape Town printed by Solomon.

Saul Solomon: Printer, Journalist and Liberal Lion of the Cape

Saul Solomon (1817 - 1892) was one of the most influential and controversial figures in 19th Century South Africa. He was born on the island of St. Helena, the nephew of Saul Solomon (1776 - 1852), a Jewish castaway who made an enormous fortune provisioning ships, such that he was popularly known as the ‘Merchant King of St. Helena’. Saul Sr. also founded the first printing press on the island in 1806. Despite his uncle’s wealth, Saul Jr. was sent as child to live in a rather decrepit boarding school in London, where he suffered malnutrition, acquiring lifelong health problems. However, he did gain from his uncle a love for the press as well as a keen business acumen.

Saul Jr. moved to Cape Town as young man and apprenticed as printer. After a while he was able to borrow money to start his own publishing house, which quickly grew to be the largest and most successful in all Southern Africa. He was also one of the principal founding investors in the Old Mutual Limited (established 1845), which soon became, and remains to this day one of Africa’s largest insurance firms. By his late twenties, Solomon became one of Cape Town’s most important citizens, and while personally secular, he financed the creation of the city’s first synagogue in 1849.

Solomon was elected as the member for Cape Town of the newly established colonial parliament in 1854, an office he would hold for the next 29 years. A champion of the Cape being granted responsible government, it was largely due to his efforts that this was achieved in 1872.

Solomon was an unapologetic and uncompromising liberal. He advocated complete racial and religious equality; it is indeed regretful that his views on these issues did not prevail, for if they did, South Africa’s story would have been far happier. While given the opportunity to serve as the Cape’s Premier, and invited to join the Cabinet on many occasions, he turned down all high offices so that he would never have to compromise his liberal views; he always voted his conscience.

In 1857, Solomon founded *The Argus* newspaper, which became the colony’s leading liberal organ, and is still one of the most popular papers in the Cape to this day. The paper was a powerful tool as Solomon fought all forms of discriminatory laws, as well as Lord Carnarvon’s ill-conceived 1874 scheme to unite South Africa into a Confederation.

Even as Solomon was heavily preoccupied by politics, he managed to grow his publishing firm into a behemoth. In 1878, during the period when the present map was issued, the Solomon firm had over 200 employees, 8 manual presses and 10 steam-powered presses. Its output comprised a large percentage of all the Cape’s official and commercial publications.

Ill-health compelled Solomon to retire in the 1883; however, his commercial and social legacy long outlived him.

References: N / A – Seemingly Unrecorded.

950 GBP

19. BOLIVIA ALMANAC / LA PAZ IMPRINT

COLEJIO DE ARTES (LA PAZ).

Calendario y guía de forasteros de la Republica Boliviana para el ano de 1835.

La Paz: Imprenta de Colejio de Artes, [1834].

Rare - a stellar example of Bolivian printing from the early independence era; one of the short-lived sequence of Bolivian almanacs published by the Colejio de Arte in La Paz during the 1830s.

12° (15 x 10.5 cm): 272 pp. [but with pagination errors as found in all examples, such that there are 266 pages as numbered, plus 6 pages numbered as '00' placed between p. 34 and p. 35], 1 p. errata, bound in later 19th Century quarter green calf with green marbled boards, spine with title and compartments in gilt (Excellent condition, internally clean and crisp, leaves with marbled fore-edges, silk bookmark ribbon; binding with very slight shelf-wear).

This gem of Bolivian printing is one of the very rare sequence of almanacs that was published by the Colejio de Arte in La Paz for only a five-year long annual run during the 1830s. The printing quality is charmingly crude in a frontier fashion, with the text embellished with numerous woodcut vignettes. Published for the year 1835, the 'Calendar and Guide for Foreigners' possesses a vast wealth of authoritative information on Bolivia during the generation following its independence, including data that not found in any other single work.

The almanac is divided onto the following sections and sub-sections: 1) Chronological notes; Historical facts of the Revolution in America (Bolivia's struggle for independence from Spain); Notable events in Bolivian History; Great Issues of the last five-year

period; 2) Calendar: Court days, in which officials attend audiences with the President; list of all public officials; Religious Festivals and Movable Feasts; 3) Political State of the Republic: Constitutional Congress; Ministries of State; Council of State; Diplomatic Agents; General Post Office; Military Court; the Departments of La Paz, Oruro, Potosí, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz.-- Provinces of Tarija and the Littoral; 4) Ecclesiastical State; Bishoprics of La Paz and Santa Cruz;

5) Military State; National Guard; General commanders of district and military courts.

The Colejio de Arte in La Paz produced annual almanacs for only 5 years: 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837 and 1838. The series would have required much effort and considerable funding to produce and was likely discontinued due to the tumultuous state of Bolivia's political scene and national economy. President Andrés de Santa Cruz y Calahumana (in office 1829-39) led the country through a series of expensive wars and a short-lived union with Peru before being deposed. While an exciting time, it was perhaps not kind to the local publishing industry.

A Note on Rarity

All examples of the issues of the *Calendario y guía de forasteros de la Republica Boliviana* are very rare. We can definitively locate only four institutional examples for the present 1835 edition worldwide, at Harvard; University of Texas (Austin); British Library; and at the Fundación Flavio Machicado Viscarra (La Paz). Moreover, we cannot trace any other examples of any of the issues appearing on the market during the last 30 years.

References: Harvard University, Widener Library: SA 5510.4; University of Texas (Austin): GZZ 918.4 C128; British Library: General Reference Collection P.P.2594.b. (in set with 1834 and 1838 eds.); Fundación Flavio Machicado Viscarra (La Paz): 984/C14. Cf. the present 1835 edition not in Gabriel René MORENO, *Biblioteca Boliviana: Catalogo de la seccion de libros i folletos* (Santiago, Chile: Imprenta Gutenberg, 1879), although the editions for 1836, 7 and 8 are listed.

980 GBP



20 ST. HELENA IMPRINT

Government of St. Helena / George Gibb (Printer).

St. Helena: The Government Office by George Gibb, [1849].

The Saint Helena Almanac and Annual Register for the Year of our Lord 1850, the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of her present Majesty Victoria I. Containing a detailed account of the Public Departments and Local Institutions, together with

Extremely rare – the Almanac and Annual Register for St. Helena for the year 1850, containing a treasure trove of contemporary information on the fascinating island that was both one of the most isolated places on earth, yet one of the key waypoints for international shipping, printed on the island by the Government Press; with extraordinary provenance, bearing both the bookplates of Alexander Meyrick Broadley, the celebrated barrister and Napoleonica collector, and Sidney Reilly, the legendary “Ace of Spies”.

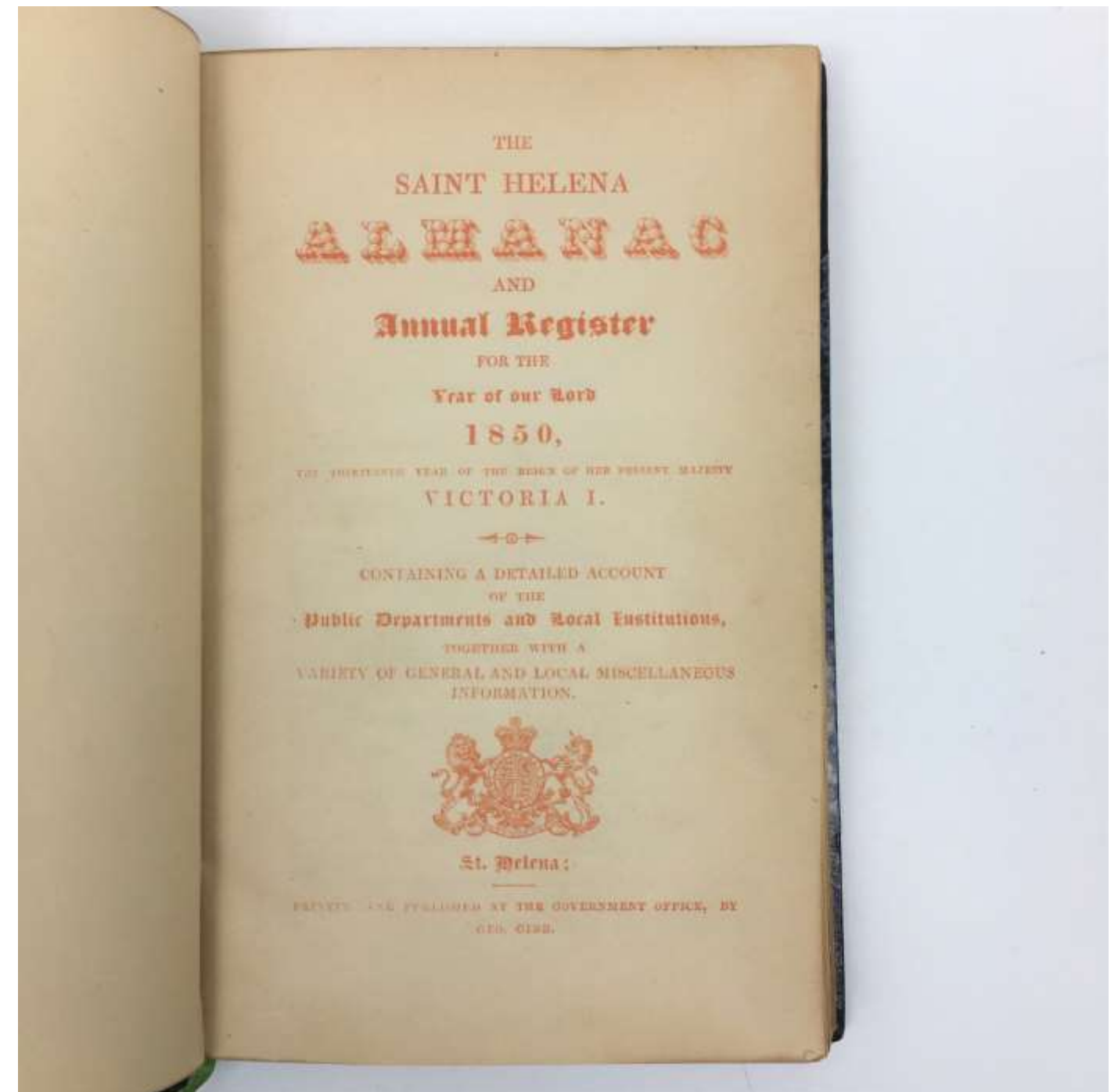
8°: [6 ff. unpaginated, including title printed in orange], [57 ff. unpaginated,], 37 pp., [5 ff., unpaginated], all letterpress with leaves gilt-topped; bound in early 20th Century half blue straight-grained morocco with decorative gilt spine, marbled endpapers; bearing the bookplates of the famous solicitor Alexander Meyrick Broadley and the legendary spy Sidney George Reilly (Very Good, internally clean and crisp with only very light even toning, except for top half of final leaf which has been excised (having been an advertisement); binding in stellar condition with only very light shelf-wear).

The present *Almanac and Annual Register* for St. Helena for the year 1850 provides a vast wealth of contemporary information on the island found nowhere else. It captures St. Helena during its economic heyday when it was World-famous for having once been the final home of Napoleon Bonaparte (from 1815 to 1821) while still a major waypoint for global shipping, yet at the same time one of the most isolated places in the world (being 1,950 km from the nearest mainland). Fuelled by both its small, yet vibrant and unique local community, and the thousands of mariners who passed through the island annually, during the early through mid-19th Century, the island enjoyed a ‘golden era’ of printing emanating from its single government-run press. This included a surprising array of broadsides, pamphlets, the odd book, and, of course, annual almanacs, that were the most substantial and informative of the productions.

The present work was published in Jamestown, St. Helena by the Government Press, under the supervision of the printer George Gibb, and like all 19th Century St. Helena imprints is extremely rare (we cannot trace another example of the present issue).

This handsome example boasts an intriguing provenance, bearing the bookplates of both the celebrated solicitor and socialite Alexander Meyrick Broadley and Sidney George Reilly, the legendary “Ace of Spies”; both men were obsessive and skilled collectors of Napoleonica.

The book features a vast wealth of information on St. Helena from its historical heyday. It commences with a title page beautifully printed in orange, followed by ‘Notes on the Natural



History of St. Helena’, describing the dramatic topography and exotic wildlife of the remote 16 by 8 km island.

The body of the work consists of three parts. First, the ‘Almanac’ features all that a good almanac should, namely sections of the introduction; eclipses; law terms; calendar; festivals and fasts; as well as a gardeners’ calendar.

Second, is the ‘Annual Register’ which includes details on the civil, judicial, ecclesiastical and military establishments; information on the ‘Liberated African Establishment’ (former slaves); East India Company’s invalids; pensioners; local institutions; foreign consuls; commercial agents; as well as the naval establishment on the West Coast of Africa. It follows up with details on the schedule of taxes and fees; ordinances; orders in council; rules of the Supreme Court; post regulations; and information on the civil hospital. Key local institutions include the Civil and Military Fund; Benevolent Society; library; military institution; telegraphs; the market; Agricultural and Horticultural Society; Church Society; Annuity Fund; Mechanics’ and Friendly Society; Pioneer Society and the Freemasons’ Lodge.

Third, the work features ‘General Miscellaneous and Local Information’, which details remarkable historical events on St. Helena; perpetual register; distances of the horizon; velocity of sound; remarkable natural phenomena; Census of 1849; table of distances; height of eminences; ‘Liberated Africans’ (noting that, in 1832, 644 slaves were emancipated on the island); Imports and Exports for 1848; market prices; compass bearings; shipping intelligence; and finally, advertisements, which feature some interesting local colour.

The detailing the vast treasure trove of information contained in the work is far too grand an endeavour to attempt here. However, some interesting statistics include the population of the island as being 6,400 (as opposed to 4,500 today); the recording of the 933 ships that called at the island from December 1848 through November 1849; and the fact that in 1848 St. Helena ran a huge trade deficit, importing £92,132 worth of goods, versus exports of £8,356!

In sum, the present work is precious source of information on St. Helena captured during tis historical apogee, which is made even more significant by the fact that it seems to be the only known surviving example.

A Note on Rarity

The 1850 *St. Helena Almanac* is exceedingly rare. We cannot locate a reference to another example in institutional holdings worldwide, nor can we trace any sales records (save for the present example).

Indeed, all issues of the *Almanac* and its predecessor publication, the *St. Helena Calendar* are likewise very to exceedingly rare, with only the odd issue appearing in the holdings of handful of institutions here and there. Only the King’s College Library (London) seems to possess a sizable collection (but not the 1850 issue). Moreover, we cannot trace any issues of the *Almanac* or *Calendar* as appearing on the market during the last 30 years, save for a collection of 12 issues (but not including the 1850 issue) sold at Christie’s London in 2004.

Extraordinary Provenance

The present example of the 1850 *St. Helena Almanac* has amazing provenance. First, it bears the bookplate of Alexander Meyrick Broadley (1847 - 1916), dated 1911 (pasted inside of front cover). Broadley was one of the most famous solicitors and social figures of the Late Victorian-Edwardian age. He famously defended Ahmed ‘Urabi, the leader of the Urabi Rebellion in Egypt

(1879-82) in a globally-publicised trial, winning him a favourable judgement against all expectations. The episode led him to be popularly referred to as ‘Broadley Pasha’, although he never attained such a title from the Ottoman Sultan. A controversial figure, he was described as a “strange being...who, amongst other avocations, acts as a sort of social broker for bringing together people who would not otherwise meet”, which ensured that he got entangled in innumerable scandals; however, he always seemed to land on his feet.

Broadley dedicated the last fifteen years of his life to obtaining rare books related to Napoleon Bonaparte; he eventually achieved one of the finest collections on the subject ever assembled. The present work on St. Helena was surely acquired with this connection in mind. He also wrote several books on Napoleon, including *Dumouriez and the Defence of England Against Napoleon (1908)* and *Napoleon in Caricature 1795-1821 (1911)*.

Second, the present volume features the ex libris of Sidney George Reilly (1874 - 1925), on the verso of the front free endpaper. Reilly, likely born Georgy Rosenblum in Odessa, to Jewish family, eventually became one of Britain’s most consequential secret agents, known as the “Ace of Spies”. His early exploits in the Far East, and his subsequent attempts to bring down the Bolsheviks in Russia were so daring and action-packed as to almost super-human. Described as “the dominating figure in the mythology of modern British espionage”, he was a suave womanizer of luxurious tastes. Not surprisingly, Ian Fleming cited him as being one of the principal inspirations for James Bond.

Reilly held a near obsession for Napoleon and amazingly, between his deadly missions abroad, he managed to assemble a stellar collection of books, manuscripts and prints relating to the late French Emperor. As with Broadly Pasha, he acquired the present work with this theme in mind. In 1921, he sold his entire collection in New York as part of single-owner sale (the present work was Lot 999, see References *below*), the printed catalogue of which remains a great classic of Napoleonic bibliography.

The Most Isolated Press in the World: Early Printing on St. Helena

St. Helena had a surprisingly rich publishing history, especially given its diminutive size. This was due to its unusual place as both one of the most isolated places in the world; its role as a great waypoint for global shipping; as well as its worldwide fame as the final home of Napoleon Bonaparte.

The first press on the island was set up by Saul Solomon (1776 - 1852) in 1806. Solomon, an English Jew, had arrived on the island in 1796, as a nearly terminally ill and penniless castaway from an East India Company vessel. However, he made a full recovery and proved to be a business genius, starting a firm which outfitted and supplied ships; he was soon known as the ‘Merchant King of St. Helena’. Solomon published the island’s first newspaper, the *Government Gazette* (from 1807) and the *St. Helena Monthly Register* (from 1809).

The island had a small permanent population (the 1814 census counted only 3,500 residents), but many more thousands passed through St. Helena each year. This created a unique situation whereupon there was always a great thirst for reading material on the island at any given time, but given that most of the readership was transient, it was seldom possible to gain enough subscriptions to make a publication profitable. As a result, in 1813, the government assumed ownership of the press (and the financial liability for printing its works), which was henceforth known as the Government Press.

The Government Press published many broadsides and pamphlets regarding official business, while also printing both official and private newspapers. A boom in shipping traffic, as well as enthusiasm due to the Napoleon's residency on the island, saw that the local authorities were easily able to subsidize their own publications, while the private periodicals contracted to the press often went bust after a short time due to a lack of stable readership.

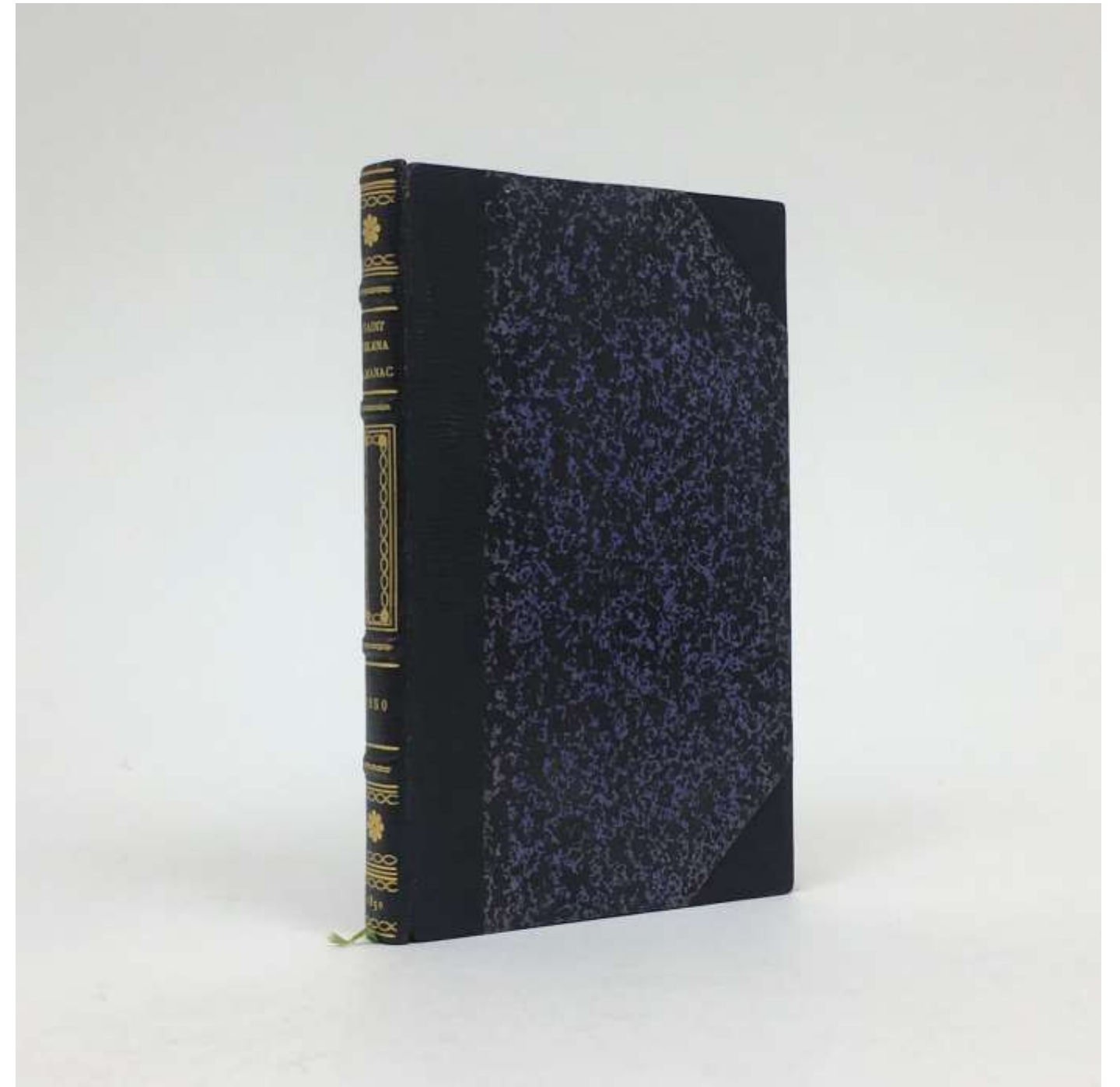
The most important works issued on St. Helena were the annual almanacs printed by the Government Press, apparently first issued for the year 1825 under the title, *St. Helena Calendar and Directory*. Issues appeared every year thereafter under this title until 1846, when the name was changed to the *St Helena Almanac and Annual Register*, which was itself printed annually for the next 38 years.

The Government Press continued to produce a wide array of official notices, periodicals, and pamphlets, as well as the odd book, for some years. However, the opening of Suez Canal in 1869 had a devastating impact upon St. Helena's economy and its print culture. Shipping henceforth generally bypassed the island, ensuring that it suddenly went from being a major hub of global transport to a complete backwater. The island lost most of its visitors, while the permanent population dwindled. The last of the straight run of the *St. Helena Almanac and Annual Register* was issued in 1884 (although an enlarged final issue would be printed in 1913), and the press come to print official notices and periodicals only very infrequently. The 'golden age' of printing on St. Helena was over, the island's print culture from that point onwards could only be described as unremarkable.

While the print culture of St. Helena was wonderfully rich between 1806 and 1884, the print runs of the island's works was always very small, while their survival rate was very low. Consequently, all St. Helena imprints from the golden age are very rare, most exceedingly so.

References: Rare – No other examples cited in Institutional Holdings or Sales Records; [Re: the present example:] *The Notable Collection of Mr. Sidney G. Reilly of New York and London: Literary, Artistic and Historical Properties, Illustrative of the Life of Napoleon Bonaparte... To be Sold at Unrestricted Public Sale, May 4th and 5th, 1921* [Auction Catalogue] (New York: The American Art Association, 1921), Lot 999.

960 GPB



21. AERODYNAMICS / PHYSICS / ZEPPELIN / BLIMPS

Max SCHIRMER (1896-1984)

Aerodynamische Modellversuche an deutschen und ausländischen Luftschiff-Baumustern im Windkanal des Luftschiffbau Zeppelin in Friedrichshafen.

[Aerodynamic Experiments on the German and Foreign Air Shift Models in the Wind Channel of the Airship Construction Factory Zeppelin in Friedrichshafen].

Braunschweig: 1942.

An important dissertation on aerodynamics by using a wind channel was made as a result of experiments, expanding over years, by a German engineer Max Schirmer at the blimp factory Zeppelin during WWII.

4°. [4], 31 pp., [1] bibliography, 6 pp., 82 pp. with 62 mounted original photographs, all sheets multiplied as whiteprints, original brown card wrappers and black cloth spine (minor wear to the wrappers and endpapers, otherwise in a good condition).

An important dissertation on aerodynamics, made in the Zeppelin Airship Company, includes original data, multiplied in a form of whiteprints with mounted original black and white photographs. The highly decorative technical photographs show different forms of blimps, the wind channel and experiments in it etc.

The dissertation is dedicated to a Zeppelin designer Ludwig Dürr (1878 – 1956).

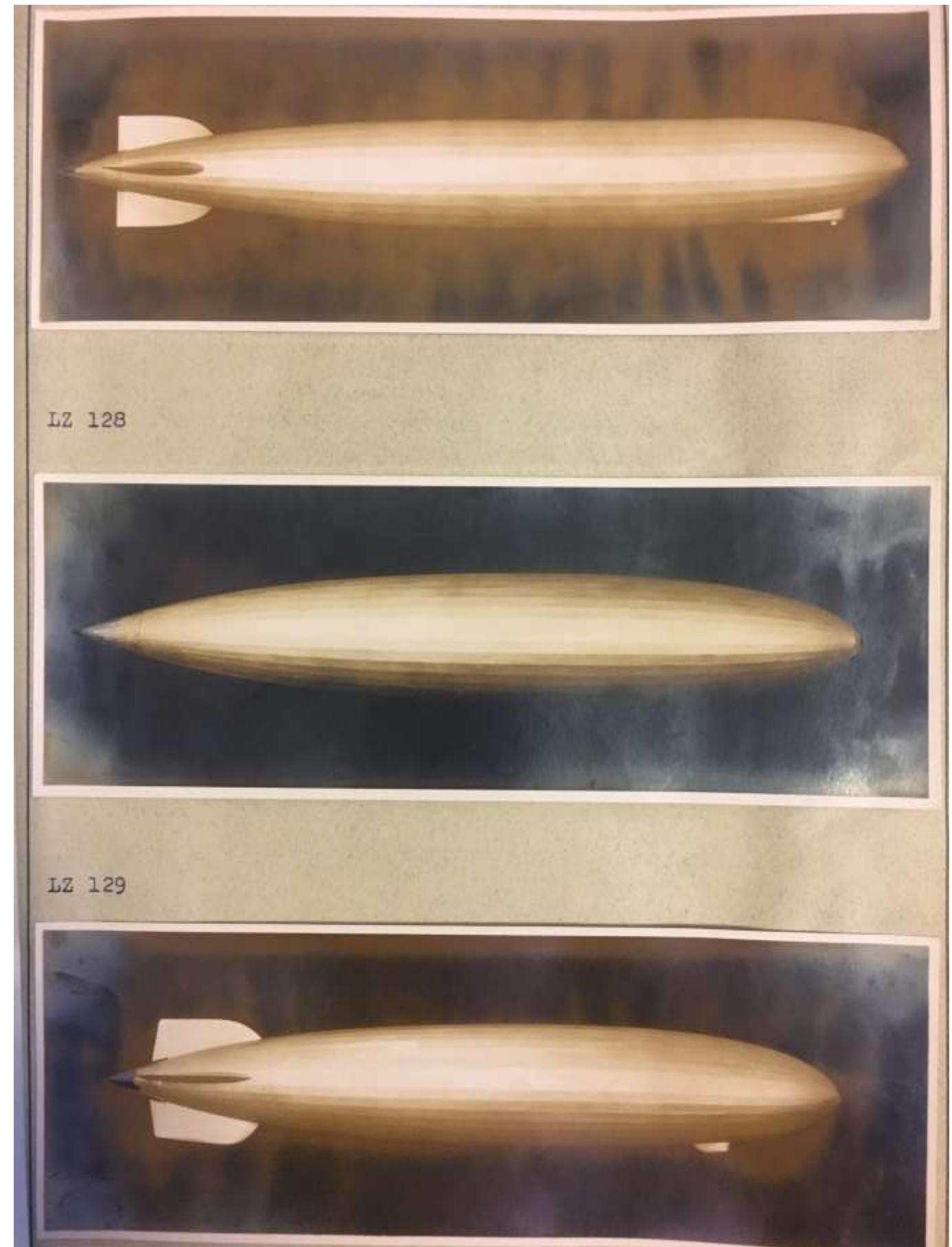
The author Max Schirmer was the head of the department for aerodynamic experiments at the Luftschiffbau Zeppelin (Airship Construction Zeppelin) on Lake Constance between 1942 and 1945. This dissertation, written when Schirmer was already in his late 40s, is based on years of the author's research of aerodynamics and working with the wind channels.

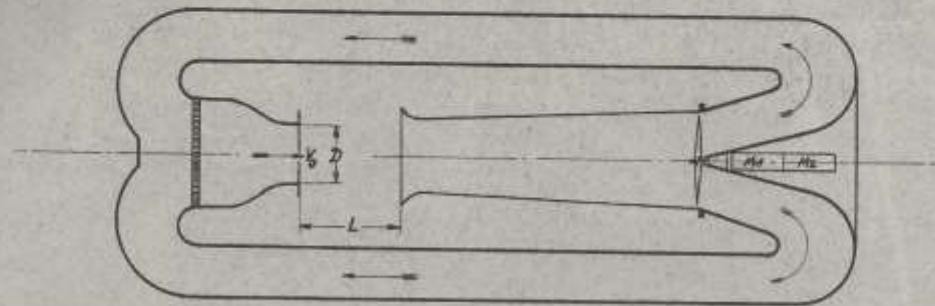
Schirmer is known as an important inventor in the development of the wind channels. He also applied his knowledge of aerodynamics to the construction of cars and trains, most notably the *Flying Hamburger*, a diesel-electric powered train, at the time known as the fastest train in the world.

We could find three institutional copies (Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Dresden, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Universitätsbibliothek Braunschweig).

References: OCLC 720828770 & 312341537.

3.800 GPB





$D = 2,9 \text{ mtr}$; $L = 4,7 \text{ mtr}$; $v_0 = 1 \text{ bis } 50 \text{ m/sek}$

Aerodynamische Modell-Versuche

an

deutschen und ausländischen
Luftschiff - Baumustern

im Windkanal des

Luftschiffbau-Zeppelin
in
Friedrichshafen a/B

22. ZEPPELIN AIRSHIP FACTORY – DOCUMENTATION

Various Authors

[Friedrichshafen: circa 1930-1940].

A striking original technical documentation of the airships, produced by the Zeppelin factory, including the details on the blimp Hindenburg, which burned in 1937, becoming one of the biggest airship disasters of the 20th century.

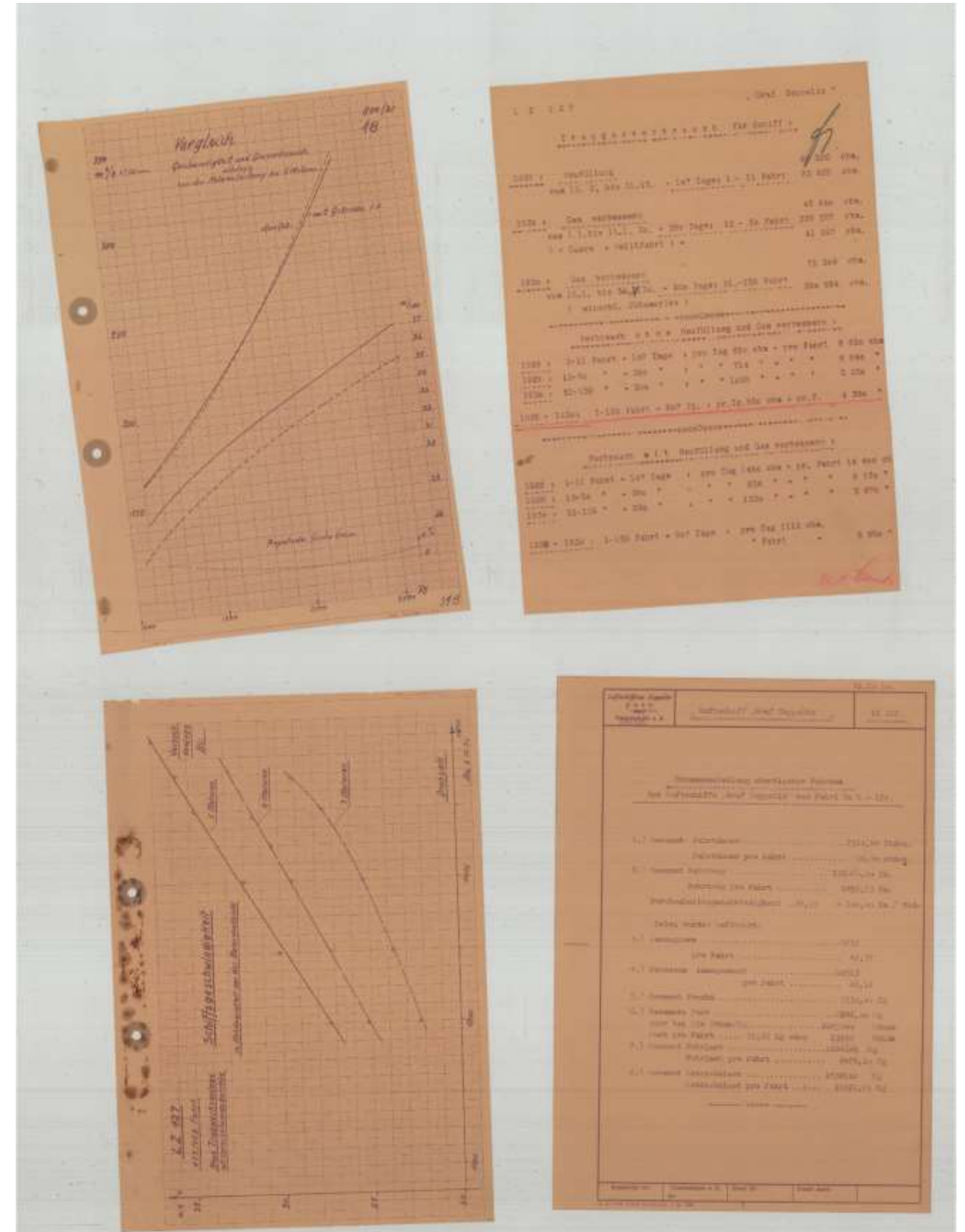
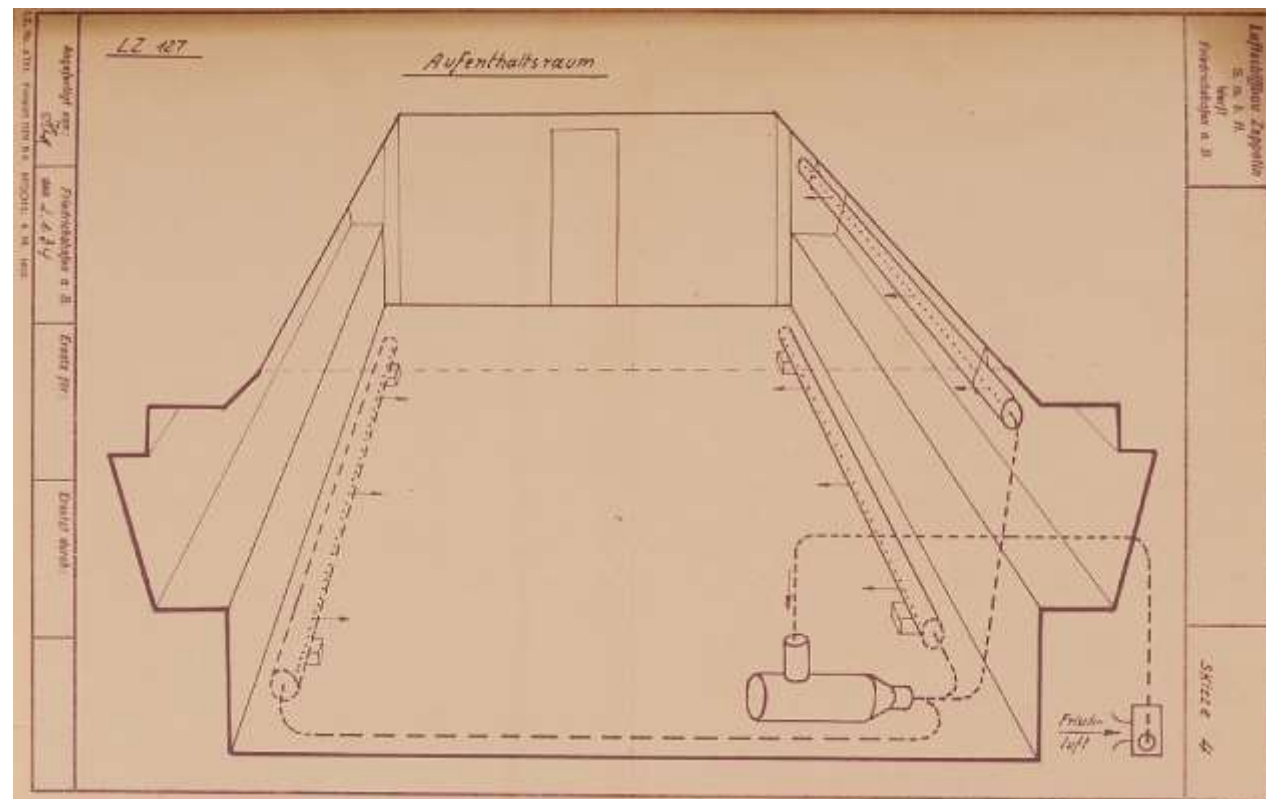
Circa 70 sheets, mostly 4°, also folding plates and one large folio, whiteprints, blueprints and manuscript text, drawings and charts, on different types of paper (contemporary punch holes on the left-hand side, sporadic old staining, otherwise in a good condition).

This stunning collection of original documentation by the blimp factory Zeppelin in Friedrichshafen lists all the first and last flights of the airships, marked with numbers 1-300, between circa 1900 and 1940. Added are the technical details of the ships numbered 1-129, the blue- and whiteprints for the equipment, its corrections and additions, data on the technical equipment, people involved etc.

Especially valuable technical information are those on the coverings, which could explain the cause of the fire on the airship LZ 129 Hindenburg in 1937, where 36 people lost their lives.

A large chart gives details on the first 50 flights, dated between September 1928 and November 1929.

1.200 GBP



Zusammenstellung der Fahrten des Luftschiffs „Graf Zeppelin“ LZ 127

Nr.	Start		Landung		Fahrtdauer	Kilometer	Fahrt		Brennstoffverbrauch		Verbrauch		Ges. Personen		Tracht	Post	Nutzlast	Betrieblast	Bemerkungen
	Tag	Stde	Tag	Stde			von	nach	Kg Benzin	m ³ Gas	Kg Öl	Passagiere	Incl. Besatzg						
1	18.2.28	15 ¹⁴	18.3.28	15 ¹¹	3.50	1170	Tr'hafen	Tr'hafen	1130	—	40	45	52	—	—	850	19170		
2	20.2.28	18 ¹¹	20.2.28	17 ¹¹	1 - 28	945	"	"	1950	—	70	90	75	—	—	1000	19070	1. Deutschl. Fahrt	
3	25.2.28	14 ¹¹	25.2.28	12 ¹¹	1 - 27	370	"	"	1370	—	42	49	36	—	—	11870	19300		
4	28.2.28	17 ¹¹	28.2.28	16 ¹¹	1 - 24	825	"	"	1562	300	80	35	14	—	10	9495	21425	3. Deutschl. Fahrt	
5	2.3.28	17 ¹¹	2.3.28	17 ¹¹	14 - 30	1142	"	"	150	8000	570	30	28	—	10	8570	21857	Deutschl. Fahrt	
6	8.3.28	13 ¹¹	8.3.28	10 ¹¹	1 - 31	300	"	"	250	750	60	37	70	—	—	7000	24921		
7	11.3.28	17 ¹¹	11.3.28	21 ¹¹	111 - 40	3926	"	Lakehurst	8700	20000	1650	46	60	—	430	4800	26650	1. Amerika Fahrt	
8	28.3.28	17 ¹¹	1.4.28	17 ¹¹	71 - 27	7100	Lakehurst	Tr'hafen	1900	19000	1400	25	30	—	370	5770	25140		
9	5.4.28	18 ¹¹	5.4.28	18 ¹¹	7 - 27	810	Tr'hafen	Bin-Staaten	180	1800	90	29	30	—	10	8170	26810		
10	6.4.28	17 ¹¹	6.4.28	16 ¹¹	8 - 27	990	Bin-Staaten	Tr'hafen	1450	2100	270	27	31	—	100	9250	20570		
11	5.4.28	18 ¹¹	5.4.28	17 ¹¹	1 - 27	320	Tr'hafen	"	400	1500	60	48	60	—	10	12190	19400		
12	4.2.28	16 ¹¹	4.2.28	17 ¹¹	2 - 56	270	"	"	930	—	80	97	75	—	—	12055	20070	2. D.L. Fahrt	
13	8.2.28	16 ¹¹	8.2.28	16 ¹¹	2 - 21	710	"	"	890	1900	30	30	45	—	—	11855	19950	"	
14	18.2.28	16 ¹¹	18.2.28	15 ¹¹	3 - 30	450	"	"	1545	5700	120	47	72	—	—	7085	20995	"	
15	20.2.28	15 ¹¹	20.2.28	15 ¹¹	4 - 30	420	"	"	1870	1970	90	36	65	—	—	8945	19348	"	
16	22.2.28	16 ¹¹	22.2.28	17 ¹¹	1 - 30	187	"	"	610	—	30	30	81	—	10	10461	14870	"	
17	22.3.28	16 ¹¹	22.3.28	17 ¹¹	2 - 24	280	"	"	400	500	45	20	30	—	10	4707	22750		
18	25.3.28	16 ¹¹	28.3.28	15 ¹¹	31 - 28	3000	"	"	4185	16000	1100	27	60	—	150	8100	21225	1. Mittelmeer Fahrt	
19	19.4.28	17 ¹¹	19.4.28	16 ¹¹	3 - 32	955	"	"	3200	—	100	24	30	—	10	11120	22970	2. D.M. Deutschl. Fahrt	
20	21.4.28	17 ¹¹	25.4.28	16 ¹¹	26 - 31	5400	"	"	3500	9700	500	22	61	—	10	14105	27420	2. Mittelmeer Fahrt	
21	2.5.28	18 ¹¹	2.5.28	15 ¹¹	11 - 37	1522	"	"	5500	7000	450	30	70	—	10	8025	20360	Österreich Fahrt	
22	15.5.28	17 ¹¹	15.5.28	17 ¹¹	1 - 29	120	"	"	300	300	30	30	30	—	10	2900	24981	"	
23	16.5.28	18 ¹¹	17.5.28	16 ¹¹	18 - 27	2537	"	Toulon	5000	5500	220	18	37	1150	104	7872	22121	4. Mittelmeer ausgefahren mit 4 Motoren	
24	23.5.28	18 ¹¹	24.5.28	15 ¹¹	8 - 50	734	Toulon	Tr'hafen	800	2000	75	18	37	1150	304	6204	13370	"	
25	27.7.28	18 ¹¹	27.7.28	18 ¹¹	3 - 41	300	Tr'hafen	"	1800	—	40	7	45	—	10	7870	18305	"	
26	28.7.28	17 ¹¹	28.7.28	16 ¹¹	11 - 42	1198	"	"	1780	1700	85	33	71	—	10	7390	21860	Baskisches Gebiet	
27	1.8.28	15 ¹¹	3.8.28	16 ¹¹	25 - 32	8250	"	Lakehurst	5800	17300	780	18	39	400	400	3500	24080	"	
28	7.8.28	15 ¹¹	10.8.28	15 ¹¹	31 - 26	7088	Lakehurst	Tr'hafen	3600	10500	450	21	61	—	400	3300	15800	"	
29	15.8.28	16 ¹¹	18.8.28	15 ¹¹	101 - 40	11297	Tr'hafen	Tokio	3750	17500	1030	21	67	—	400	3980	17230	Weltfahrt	
30	23.8.28	15 ¹¹	26.8.28	15 ¹¹	77 - 21	3051	Tokio	Los Angeles	1500	15400	880	18	37	—	400	3440	17080	"	
31	27.8.28	16 ¹¹	29.8.28	15 ¹¹	37 - 37	4802	Los Angeles	Lakehurst	1350	16000	740	21	37	—	400	1940	12230	"	
32	4.9.28	17 ¹¹	4.9.28	18 ¹¹	37 - 37	8478	Lakehurst	Tr'hafen	900	18800	1180	23	63	—	600	3700	22270	"	
33	11.9.28	15 ¹¹	12.9.28	15 ¹¹	19 - 30	1171	Tr'hafen	"	170	3200	40	33	71	—	10	1450	17000	Industrie Gebiet	
34	18.9.28	14 ¹¹	18.9.28	17 ¹¹	27 - 31	2442	"	"	270	3800	40	37	70	—	40	7490	17320	Industrie Gebiet	
35	26.9.28	18 ¹¹	26.9.28	17 ¹¹	3 - 27	892	"	"	300	1800	130	28	47	—	10	8150	18080	Schweizer Fahrt	
36	27.9.28	18 ¹¹	27.9.28	15 ¹¹	7 - 27	727	"	"	250	1400	80	27	70	—	10	7930	15760	"	
37	28.9.28	18 ¹¹	28.9.28	16 ¹¹	8 - 24	342	"	"	800	1100	100	23	71	—	10	7050	16040	"	
38	1.10.28	18 ¹¹	1.10.28	18 ¹¹	7 - 40	307	"	"	200	1900	37	25	71	—	10	5170	16400	Östdeutschl. Fahrt	
39	2.10.28	18 ¹¹	2.10.28	15 ¹¹	6 - 38	577	"	"	200	1000	30	34	71	—	10	6030	14060	Schweizer Fahrt	
40	6.10.28	18 ¹¹	6.10.28	17 ¹¹	8 - 44	670	"	"	200	1560	80	29	60	—	10	6030	17560	"	
41	12.10.28	18 ¹¹	13.10.28	18 ¹¹	19 - 30	1740	"	"	200	9700	185	15	75	—	10	8610	18200	Holland Fahrt	
42	18.10.28	18 ¹¹	18.10.28	21 ¹¹	48 - 38	4730	"	"	250	10180	671	22	62	—	10	8470	18400	Balkan Fahrt	
43	21.10.28	18 ¹¹	24.10.28	19 ¹¹	36 - 36	2942	"	"	380	6000	112	19	47	—	10	8524	17430	Spanien Fahrt	
44	2.11.28	18 ¹¹	2.11.28	16 ¹¹	5 - 32	427	"	Döhenwarf	190	1000	58	46	32	—	10	8790	15170	Schweizer Fahrt	
45	2.11.28	15 ¹¹	2.11.28	16 ¹¹	1 - 27	90	Döhenwarf	Tr'hafen	110	140	17	45	87	—	130	5180	18304	"	
46	3.11.28	15 ¹¹	3.11.28	16 ¹¹	3 - 30	317	Tr'hafen	Böblingen	180	730	47	37	70	—	10	8870	16370	"	
47	1.11.28	15 ¹¹	1.11.28	17 ¹¹	1 - 19	150	Böblingen	Tr'hafen	80	295	15	44	85	—	10	8870	15762	"	
48	10.11.28	15 ¹¹	10.11.28	17 ¹¹	3 - 42	374	Tr'hafen	Frankfurt	150	525	35	45	87	—	10	8370	16700	"	
49	10.11.28	15 ¹¹	10.11.28	17 ¹¹	3 - 30	307	Tr'hafen	Frankfurt	150	795	44	45	87	—	10	8810	16470	"	
50	18.11.28	15 ¹¹	18.11.28	15 ¹¹	5 - 27	342	Tr'hafen	Tr'hafen	185	750	30	52	85	—	10	8710	15370	"	

Gesamte Fahrtstrecke	= 116985 Km	Gesamt Kraftgasverbrauch	= 235065 m ³	Gesamt Anzahl Passagiere	= 1574	Gesamte Post	= 5118 Kg
Mittl. Strecke pro Fahrt	= 2339,7 Km	Verbrauch pro Fahrstde	= 190,95 m ³	Anzahl pro Fahrt	= 31	Post pro Fahrt	= 102,36 Kg
Gesamte Fahrtdauer	= 1231,15 Stdn	Gesamt Benzinverbrauch	= 16187 Kg	Gesamt Personenzahl	= 3454	Gesamt Nutzlast	= 397656 Kg
Mittl. Geschwindigkeit pro Stde	= 95,02 Km	Verbrauch pro Fahrstde	= 6168 Kg	Personenzahl pro Fahrt	= 69	Nutzlast pro Fahrt	= 7953,12 Kg
Schiff im Dienst	= 432 Tage	Gesamt Ölverbrauch	= 14132 Kg	Gesamte Fracht	= 2700 Kg	Gesamt Betr. Last	= 949352 Kg
Fahrtage in %	= 51,01% = 11,00%	Verbrauch pro Fahrstde	= 11,47 Kg	Fracht pro Fahrt	= 54 Kg	Betr. Last pro Fahrt	= 1898,04 Kg
Eigentl. Fahrtage	= 91 Tage = 21,07%						
Fahrtstrecke pro eigtl. Fahrtage	= 1285,55 Km	Gasverbrauch pro Km	= 2,01 m ³	Gesamt Ladung in 50 Fahrten	= 1347008 Kg = 1347 Tons		
Schiff im Dienst, abzgl. gr. Reparatur	= 367 Tage	Benzinverbrauch pro Km	= 0,88 Kg			Nutzlast pro Km	= 3,922 Kg
Eigtl. Fahrtage, abzgl. gr. Rep. in %	= 24,30%	Ölverbrauch pro Km	= 0,12 Kg			Betr. Last pro Km	= 8,115 Kg

23. ICROPHOTOGRAPHY

John Benjamin DANCER (1812 - 1887) & OTHERS.

[England, mid-19th Century].

A Collection of 8 microphotographs (each circa 0.18 cm x 0.9 cm), each mounted under a circular glass slip upon a glass slide (each circa 2.5 x 7.6), with one or two printed labels to each slide (Please see listing of the individual slides following for condition reports).

A fascinating collection of 8 mid-19th Century microphotographs, 3 by John Benjamin Dancer, the pioneer of the medium; scarce curiosities from the early age of photography.

Present here is a collection of eight mid-19th century microphotographs mounted on glass slides with original paper labels. Microphotography was a technique pioneered by John Benjamin Dancer (1812-87), a prolific English inventor of photographic and optical devices, who started creating examples shortly after the Daguerreotype method was first publicized in 1839. The miniature photographs, approximately 1 x 1 millimetres in size, were meant to be viewed by microscopes. Dancer's microphotography quickly became all the rage in England, and other photographers soon duplicated his process, bringing their own works to market.

Many of the microphotographs of the mid-19th Century depicted portraits of important historical or contemporary personages, city scenes, as well as famous objects or documents. For many years, microphotographs were considered curiosities for the amusement of the public and the commercial gain of photographers and their agents. However, during the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1), the espionage value of microphotography was recognized, and for that point onwards the medium became a preferred route for smuggling top secret diagrams and letters across enemy lines.

The present collection includes three microphotographs by Dancer, as indicated by his initials 'J.B.D.' on the labels, while the five others are by different photographers.

The 8 Microphotographs in the Collection are as follows:

1. *The Holy Family. After Raphael. 66. J. B. D.* [John Benjamin Dancer].



Printed title on a yellow label on the left-hand side, oval seller's label of 'Newton & Co. 3 Fleet St. Temple Bar. London' on right-hand side (Condition: slight chipping to slide glass on far right not affecting photograph or labels).

2. *155 Portraits of Eminent Persons. 150. J. B. D.* [John Benjamin Dancer].

Printed title on a yellow label on the left-hand side, small oval label with mss. numeration on the right-hand side (Condition: Very Good, save for transparent tape repair overlaying title label).

3. *Photograph. Major Dickson's Tablet. In Rostherne Church, Cheshire. Size of Original, 5 feet. J. B. D.* [John Benjamin Dancer].

Printed title on a yellow label on the left-hand side, small oval label with mss. numeration on the right-hand side (Condition: photograph scraped and damaged).

4. *Her Majesty the Queen. A Photographic Curiosity for the Microscope. J. S.*

Printed title on a pink label on the left-hand side (Condition: Slide glass broken in the area of the label with an old reparation obscuring part of the label).

5. *His Royal Highness Prince Albert Photographic Curiosity for the Microscope. J. S.*

Printed title on a pink label on the left-hand side (Condition: Slide glass broken in the area of the label with 2 old reparations obscuring part of the label; right-hand side of slide glass missing but not affecting photograph).

6. *Portrait of [Illegible].*

White paper label with manuscript in black ink to left-hand side (Condition: Very Good, mss. label slightly chipped).

7. *Photograph. Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross. A. R.* Printed title on a white label on left-hand side, oval seller's label of 'Newton & Co. 3 Fleet St. Temple Bar. London' on right-hand side (Condition: Very Good, slight abrasion to title label).

8. *The Spanish Letter Letter.*

Printed title on a green label to left-hand side (Condition: Very Good).

References: Cf. Brian BRACEGIRDLE & James B. MCCORMICK, *The Microscopic Photographs of J.B. Dancer* (London: Science Heritage Limited, 1993); Michael HALLETT, 'John Benjamin Dancer 1812-1887: a perspective', *History of Photography*, an international quarterly, vol. 10, no. 3 (July - September 1986), pp. 237-255.

850 GBP

24. FIRM CATALOGUE / POLAR EXPLORATION / FASHION

Victor LHUER (1883-1951) - Édouard Paul MÉRITE (1867-1941), drawings and design;
Jean-Baptiste CHARCOT (1867-1936) et al., text.

Paris: Louis Durel 1921.

An elaborate art deco firm catalogue by a Parisian furrier, with contributions by explorers, vellum binding and drawings by the fashion artist Victor Lhuer and animal painter Édouard Paul Mérite.

Oblong 4°. 32 pp. Colour lithographs on thick paper, patterned transparent endpapers, vellum (sealhide?) illustrated binding, bound together with vellum string on the spine, carved bone hanging on the string (Very Good).

This unusual elaborately made firm catalogue for a Parisian furrier À la reine d'Angleterre was made in 1921 and mimics a manuscript on parchment, accompanied by details, made of animals. The design on vellum imitates native patterns and art.

The cover design and the fashion drawings inside were made by Victor Lhuer (1883-1951), a Romania-born French painter, known for his fashion drawings, and two morbid drawings of killed seals and polar bears were drafted by a French artist Édouard Paul Mérite (1867-1941), known for his representations of wild animals.

The catalogue includes various texts, including one by a French polar explorer Jean-Baptiste Charcot (1867-1936) and an Eskimo hunting song, copied from "Report of the Bureau of Ethnology".

820 GBP





FEMME JAMOYÈDE - XVIII^e S.



- AU 20^e S. -



- JAMOYÈDE -



- EMYRIENNE -



25. COOKBOOK

Anne GLASS, editor

An American Cook in Turkey. Dedicated to the Blakes. 420 recipes... 380 entries in an English-Turkish food glossary... Many helpful hints for those who want home cooking away from home..

Izmir: Türkiyede nesir hakki. Amerikan Bord Nesriyat Dairesine Aittir. American Collegiate Institute Press, June 1961

A rare first mimeographed edition of American cooking in Turkey, which was issued in a book in several editions in the following decades.

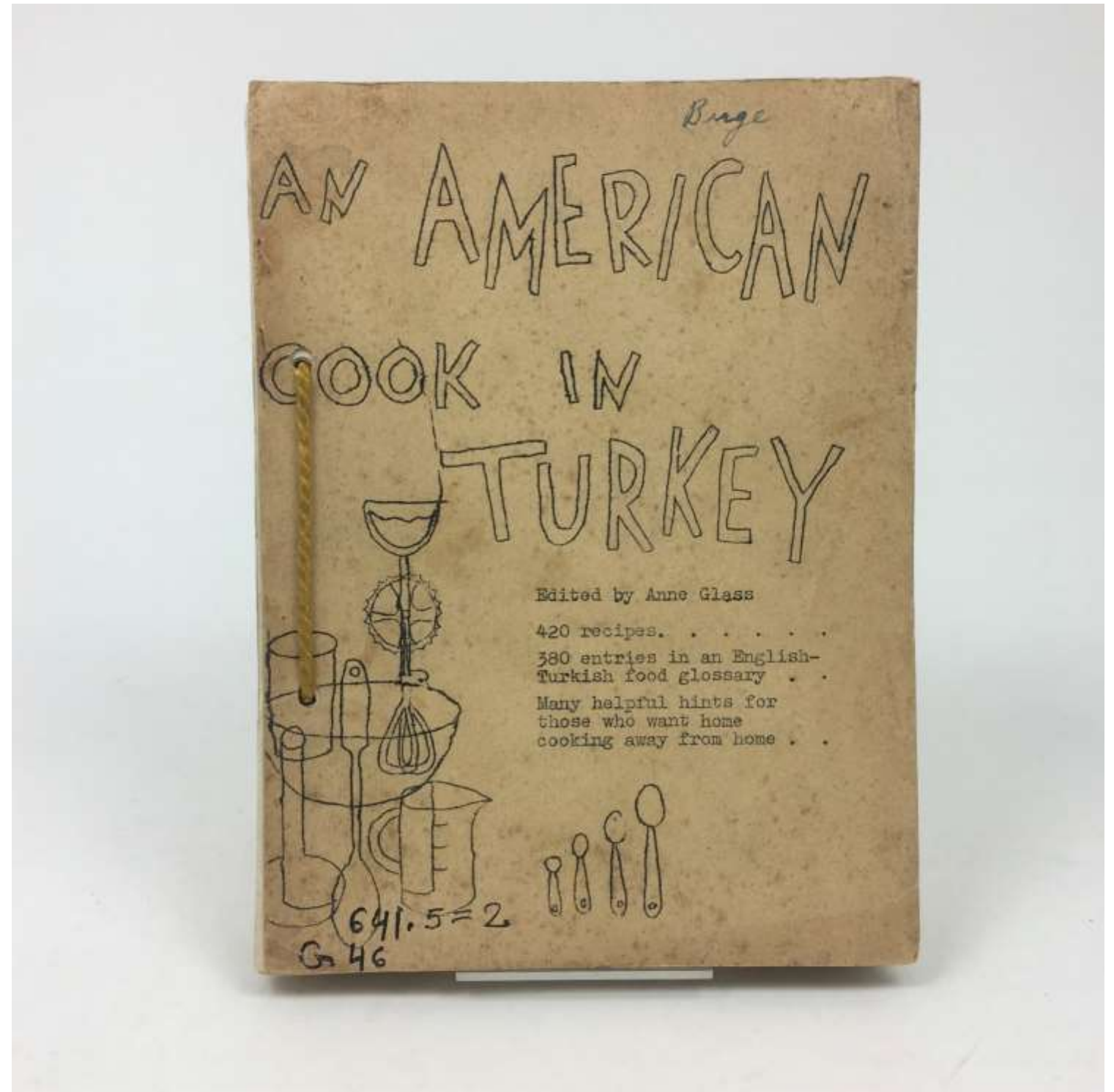
8°. 244 pp. mimeographed text printed recto, original mimeographed illustrated card covers, originally bound with a yellow string, marked 4166 62 with a rubber stamp and black ink on the title page (very light staining and wear, light water (?) staining in the last pages, erased label or stamp on the back of the title page with hand-written numeration, old owner's name and annotations written in ink on the cover, otherwise in a good condition).

This is a rare first mimeographed edition with 420 cooking recipes for mostly American dishes, written by the women of the American association in Izmir in 1961. The book also includes a Turkish-English dictionary of food and instructions on how to get around Turkish markets and stores, some Turkish dishes and instructions for mixing beverages.

The texts often include personal notes and in case of a Cuban recipe a short political remark.

From 1971 on the book was reprinted in many versions. We could not find any institutional copies of this first mimeographed edition.

120 GBP



27. VIETNAM / THAILAND / CAMBODIA ARCHIVE

Gabriel AUBARET (1825 - 1894).

[AN ARCHIVE FEATURING THE MANUSCRIPT 'DIPLOMATIC LETTER BOOK' OF GABRIEL AUBARET, THE FRENCH CONSUL TO VIETNAM AND SIAM, 1864-7, PLUS OTHER IMPORTANT ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS].

[Various Places, Various Formats, mainly dating from 1864 to 1869, Please see Details Following].

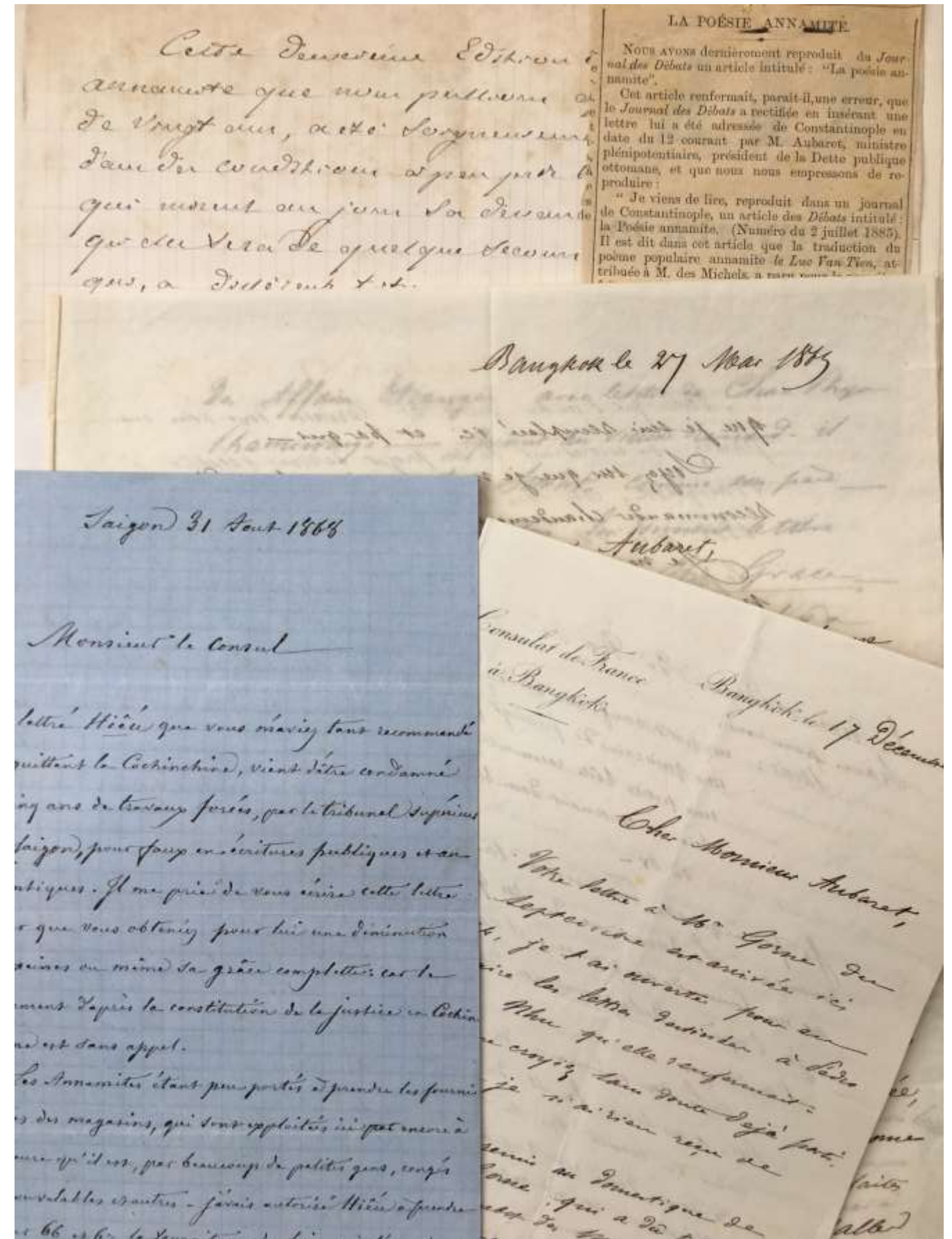
A highly important original archive relating to the history of Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia, from the papers of the Gabriel Aubaret, one of leading figures responsible for bringing Vietnam under French colonial rule, as well as a major player at King Mongkut's fabled court in Bangkok during the period immortalized by the 'King and I'; highlighted by Aubaret's manuscript 'diplomatic letter book' which contains all manner of top secret high-level information, ranging from political strategy papers, treaty negotiations, as well as lively accounts of audiences with kings and emperors, plus other important original documents; indispensable primary sources on Indochina during a time of transformative change.

In 1863, Indochina was at a historical crossroads. France, ruled by the expansionist Emperor Napoleon III had recently invaded Vietnam, seizing Saigon and surrounding provinces. France also endeavoured to become the dominant foreign influencer in Siam (Thailand), which was then opening to the West after 150 years of relative isolation. Meanwhile, the fate of Cambodia, a buffer state, whose territories were long coveted by both Vietnam and Siam, and which had recently come between France's crosshairs, hung in the balance.

The future of the region would largely depend upon the choices made by France over the next few years. A debate split the French hierarchy: Should France annex and govern territory in Indochina as a permanent empire, or, Would it be better for France to maintain strong economic and cultural ties in the region, but to avoid annexing territories, so avoiding immense costs and liabilities?

At the beginning of 1864, Napoleon III appointed Gabriel Aubaret to be France's 'point man' in Indochina, with the dual mandates of Consul General in Bangkok and France's Special Envoy to Vietnam. Over the next three years, Aubaret was to impress the Vietnamese Emperor Tu Duc with his mastery of the Vietnamese language, culture and politics, while he became one of the leading figures at the fabled court of King Mongkut, the great modernizing ruler of Siam. In Bangkok, while he was admired by many, he is often remembered for being the arch-villain in Margaret Landon's *Anna and the King of Siam*, the inspiration for Roger & Hammerstein's musical *The King and I*. Along the way, Aubaret endeavoured to craft a complex and balanced blueprint for France's presence in Indochina. Aubaret advocated for France to have a lighter footprint in Vietnam, allowing Tu Duc to maintain sovereignty over his entire country, while affirming comprehensive rights for French traders and Catholic missionaries; it was hoped that this would be the basis for a long-lasting symbiotic relationship. Aubaret also sought to make France the preferred foreign power in Siam, while balancing French and Siamese interests in Cambodia (the autonomy of which was to be sacrificed).

However, arch-colonialists in the French establishment favoured a more aggressive design, seeking to create an enduring empire in Indochina. They ensured that Aubaret's moderate plan for



Vietnam was overruled, although his ideas regarding Siam and Cambodia were largely realized. Even though Aubaret was not fully successful in implementing his objectives, his actions framed the debate, and whether or not things turned out in the manner he envisioned, he played a major role in establishing what became the Union of Indochina, France's mega-colony that embraced Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos for almost three generations.

The present archive comes from the papers that Aubaret retained upon his return from Indochina to Europe in 1867. They were retained by his wife, Thérèse Aubaret, who quoted extensively from their contents in the biography of her late husband that she published in Poitiers in 1898.

We have divided the archive into three parts. Part I is the highlight, being Aubaret's manuscript diplomatic letter books, containing copies of the consul / envoy's most important correspondence and official papers throughout his tenure which lasted from 1864 to 1867. These top-secret documents include Aubaret's reports to the foreign minister; copies of letters exchanged between emperors, kings, ministers and admirals; draft proposed treaties; confidential working strategy papers, as well as vivid and engaging accounts of ceremonies and audiences at both at the Siamese and Vietnamese courts. The letter book provides the ultimate 'insider's view' into the momentous events that would shape the history of Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia for decades to come.

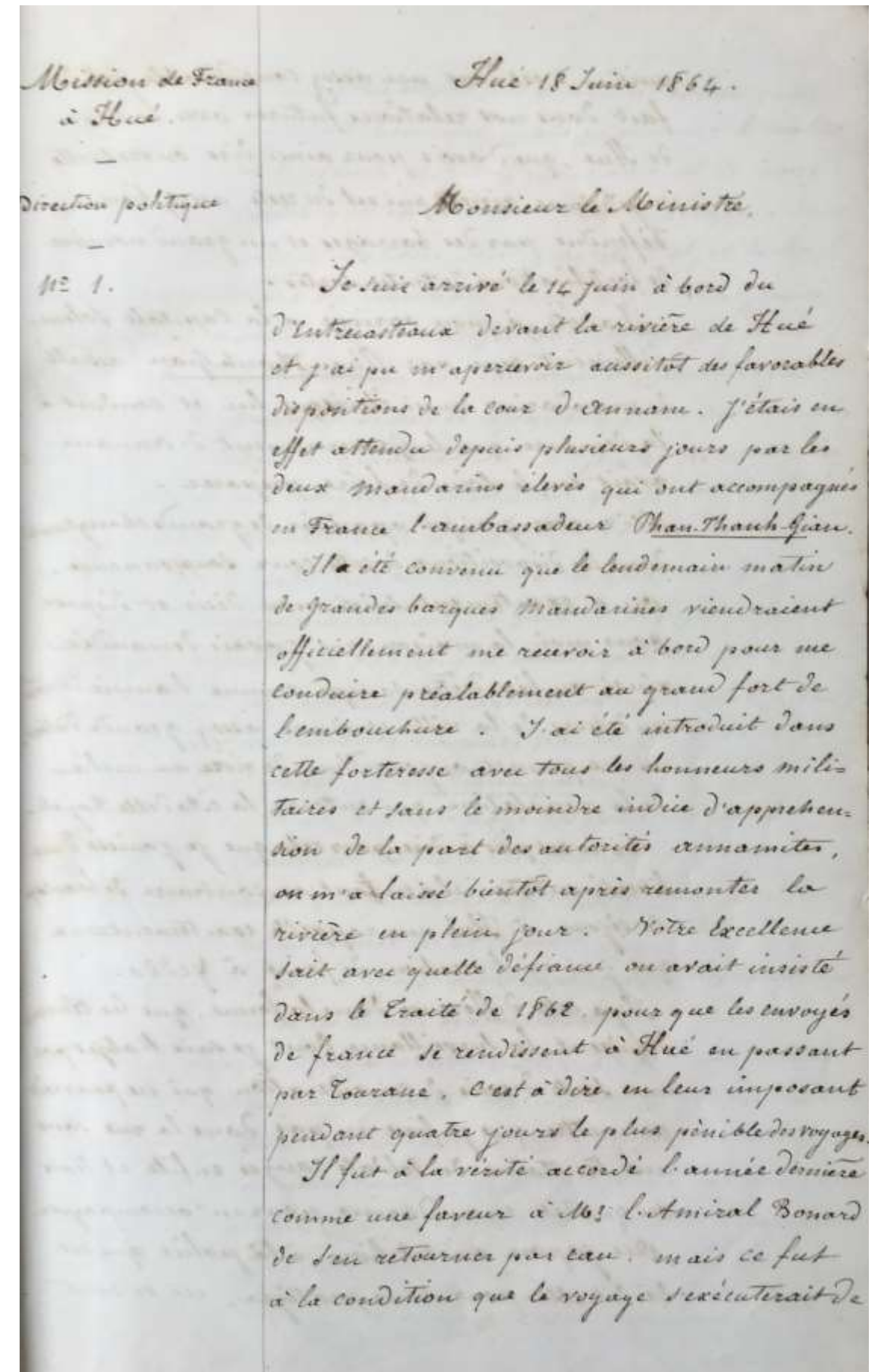
Part II features the lengthy hectographed report that Aubaret submitted to Napoleon III's ministers late in 1863, providing a highly insightful and detailed overview of the recent history and current state of Vietnam. Written by a prime mover in the events described, as well as the only French official who possessed a complete mastery of the Vietnamese language and a strong appreciation with its cultural and customs, the report is an incredibly valuable resource for understanding the state of play in Vietnam during a time of transformative change.

Part III features a collection of diverse documents, including a handful of manuscript letters written to Aubaret in 1868 and 1869 by his colleagues in Bangkok and Saigon, reporting on events in the region in the wake of the consul's return to Europe. Also included is a commendation from the Spanish crown recognizing Aubaret's service in the Cochinchina Campaign. There are also a couple letters commenting on Aubaret's seminal work on the Vietnamese language, *Grammaire Annamite*.

The present archive, while quoted in Aubaret's biography, had never been studied by scholars. It features critically important primary sources that reveal the true story of exactly how France managed to commence the building an empire in Indochina, as viewed through the eyes of one of the key players in the drama. It will be of immense interest to historians and others who seek to understand the events that shaped the future of one of the world's most vibrant and culturally sophisticated regions.

Gabriel Aubaret & Napoleon III's Colonial Designs in Indochina

France had a long history in what is today called Vietnam, that far predated their 19th Century colonial intervention in the country. Throughout the 17th and 18th Centuries, Tonkin (the north); Annam (central) and the southern regions of Vietnam (called 'Cochinchine' by the French) were distinct political entities, ruled by different imperial dynasties. During this period France sponsored Catholic missionary activities in various regions, while French merchants were an important part of the country's maritime trade. However, unlike in Thailand, for many



generations, France resisted becoming intimately involved in the country's internal political affairs.

However, in the 1780s, France saw an opportunity to gain profound and enduring influence in Vietnam. Louis XVI formally provided military assistance to the Nguyen Family of Annam, in what was to be a long-running civil war to gain control over the entire country. This included constructing the Vauban-style citadel at Saigon, as well as providing the Nguyen with modern technology that gave them the upper hand over their adversaries. While formal assistance ended during the French Revolution, French merchants and missionaries continued to provide unofficial, but highly effective, aid that finally allowed the Nguyen leader, Gia Long, to unite the country, declaring himself Emperor of Đại Việt (Vietnam) in 1802. Notably, even in Aubaret's time, the French referred to the Nguyen court in Huế as 'Annamite', even though it ruled over all of Vietnam.

While Gia Long remained a loyal friend of the many French merchants and missionaries operating the country, giving them preference over other foreigners, upon his death in 1820, his successors showed less tolerance of the Gallic presence. In the 1830s, relations between the Nguyen Dynasty and the French missionaries deteriorated when some French priests were found to be supporting an unsuccessful rebellion against the emperor. It was a prelude to even more severe problems which would bring France and Vietnam to war.

Turning to Siam (Thailand), beginning in the 1660s, during the reign of Louis XIV and the robust foreign policy of his chief minister Jean-Baptiste Colbert, France dramatically intensified its presence in the country. The Siamese King Narai, of the Ayutthaya Kingdom (reigned 1656-88), was receptive to French intervention, in part to counter the long-standing presence of Dutch and English operatives in his realm. France sponsored widespread Catholic missionary activity and dramatically boosted trade with Siam. French missionaries managed to convert many prominent Thais (albeit never succeeding in Catholicizing the king, their ultimate objective), while French commercial concerns gradually assumed an ever-larger stake in the national economy. By the early 1680s, France had largely muscled Dutch and English interests from Siam, while the appointment of the pro-French, Greek-born adventurer Constantine Phaulkon as Narai's Chief Minister, gave France an unprecedented level of power over Siamese affairs. Following the agreements signed during the 1685 embassy of the Chevalier de Chaumont to Narai's court, Siam could rightly be described a French client state.

The French omnipresence in Siam was not popular amongst many of the key stakeholders in the country. In what was known as the Siamese Revolution of 1688, Phetracha, the head of Narai's elite Elephant Corps (essentially the king's national security adviser), took advantage of the king's ailing health to mount a full-scale revolt. After taking the capital, Ayutthaya, and successfully besieging the French bastion at Bangkok, Phetracha deposed the recently deceased Narai's heirs, placing himself on the throne, whereupon he proceeded to expel the French (and all other foreigners) from the Siam. While this xenophobic regime was subsequently relaxed, France and other Western powers were for the next 150 years permitted to have only a very limited presence in Siam. It was only during the 1850s, that Siam began to re-open to Westerners. Nevertheless, France's unique history in Siam coloured the events that are described in the present archive.

Napoleon III (1808-73), the nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte, declared himself Emperor of France in 1852, with profound consequences for the fate of Indochina. He enacted a robust, militaristic

Don politique Bangkok 16 avril 1864.
remise des lettres Monsieur le Ministre,
de l'Empereur Dans les premières visites que j'ai pu faire
Audience du 1^{er} le lendemain de mon arrivée à Bangkok
Lors de mon audience au Ministre des affaires étrangères (Phra-
M^o 1^{er} Khlung) et au 1^{er} Ministre (Kalahanom)
De S. M. le roi de Siam j'ai fait officie-
llement connaître à ces hauts dignitaires
que j'étais porteur de lettres de S. M. l'Em-
pereur des Français pour le 1^{er} et le 2^e Roi.
J'ai en conséquence demandé une audience
des plus solennelles pour la remise de ces
lettres. Le 2^e Roi de Siam ayant une
cour et un cérémonial tout à fait distincts
du 1^{er} il n'a pu être question que de celui-
ci chez le Kalahanom et le Phra Khlung.
Ces deux Ministres m'ont affirmé à plu-
sieurs reprises que leur Souverain était trop
flatté de l'honneur insigne qu'a bien
voulu lui faire l'Empereur pour ne pas
accorder tout ce que je pourrai désirer.
Le jour de la réception ayant été
fixé au vendredi 15 avril, j'ai reçu
la veille du Phra Khlung un programme
que V. E. trouvera ci-joint et qui lui indi-
quera bien mieux que je ne saurais le

foreign policy, geared towards colonial expansion and the promotion of Roman Catholicism. This led him to mount large-scale military invasions of countries ranging from Mexico to Lebanon to China, while simple 'gunboat diplomacy' was employed elsewhere.

The Emperor of Vietnam, Tu Duc (reigned 1847-83), had proven to be the most xenophobic Nguyen ruler yet. He set about persecuting missionaries and Vietnamese Christians to an unprecedented degree, while interfering with French trade.

Napoleon III was alarmed by the developments in Vietnam and in 1856 dispatched Charles de Montigny on an embassy to 'reset' relations with Tu Duc's court, as well as initiating a new relationship with Siam. While his visit to Bangkok was successful, Montigny was coldly received by Tu Duc in Hué, the Vietnamese capital. The French emperor was deeply offended by this slight and began to contemplate revenge upon the Vietnam. Tu Duc's decision to execute a group of French and Spanish priests in 1857, only added to this impulse.

Meanwhile, during the Second Opium War (1856-60), France and Britain had mounted devastating punitive expeditions against China, even sacking the Summer Palace in Peking. The resounding military success of this venture convinced Napoleon III and his ministers that France could vanquish a powerful enemy on the other side of the world through relatively small-scale, but heavily armed and well-organized expeditions.

In 1858, Napoleon III initiated what became known as the 'Cochinchina Campaign', an invasion of Vietnam. France was to be supported by Spain, which was likewise angered by Tu Duc's harsh treatment of their missionaries; the Spanish Philippines also served a useful revictualling base.

At this point, it must be noted that while France intended for the campaign to forcibly install a permanent French economic and missionary presence in Vietnam, it was unclear as to what the nature of that presence would be. The French establishment was divided into 'conservative colonialist' and 'moderate' camps. The prior wanted France to conquer and govern territory in Vietnam, while the moderates merely desired to compel Tu Duc to agree to grant France permanent free trading rights, as well as special protections for Catholic missionaries in the country, perhaps guaranteed by the presence of a French military bastion. While the colonialist camp wanted to embark upon a 'civilizing' mission to Westernize Vietnam, and maybe even to convert its entire populous to Christianity, the moderates feared the astounding costs in blood and treasure of maintaining an empire in the Far East, preferring to confine the Franco-Vietnamese relationship to trade and limited cultural exchange. The tug-of-war between these two camps greatly affected the outcome of events.

In September 1858, the Franco-Spanish expedition swiftly captured the major Vietnamese port of Da Nang (called 'Tourane' by the French); however, they soon found themselves pinned down in the city. The French high command had grossly underestimated the Vietnamese and misunderstood the nature of their military strategy. While the French 'shock and awe' operations had vanquished the large, yet clumsy and conventional Chinese armies, they were no match for the patient and ingenious guerrilla warfare techniques preferred by Tu Duc's warriors. The Franco-Spanish forces remained besieged in Da Nang for a year and half, before stubbornly pulling out.

Meanwhile, the Franco-Spanish forces attempted another foray into Vietnamese territory, attacking Saigon in February 1859. While they eventually took the city, the operation proved

Annex à la Ceremonial
lettre n° 1. Observé à Bangkok pour la réception
par le 1^{er} Roi.
Des lettres de l'Empereur.
Il sera envoyé demain 15 avril à 5 h.
de l'après midi au Consulat de France
39 barques qui formeront un cortège
composé ainsi qu'il suit:
1^o Deux grandes barques ouvrant
la marche.
Deux barques ayant l'avant en
forme de crocodile.
Deux barques de la même forme que
les précédentes mais plus grandes.
Deux barques ayant à l'avant des
têtes de tigre.
Deux barques ayant l'avant en
forme de serpent;
Deux longues barques;
Une grande barque ornée et préparée et
portant un grand vase en or pour recevoir
la lettre de l'Empereur.
Une grande barque destinée à recevoir
le Consul de France.
Deux grandes barques pour le Comman-
dant et les officiers du navire Français.

extremely difficult as they were unable to make headway into the jungles and channels of the surrounding Mekong Delta. The Vietnamese mastery of asymmetric warfare ravaged French parties, while the French took out their frustrations by committing acts of extreme brutality against local villagers.

In November 1861, Vice Admiral Louis Bonnard became the commander of the Cochinchina Campaign. He had experience fighting against guerrilla warriors in Africa, and cleverly adapted French operations to withstand and overpower the Vietnamese forces in the Mekong Delta. He conquered six provinces in the region and forced a reluctant Tu Duc to sue for peace.

The Franco-Spanish side and the Vietnamese diplomats agreed to the Treaty of Saigon (June 5, 1862), by which Vietnam would cede Saigon and the provinces of Bien Hoa, Gia Định and Định Tuong to France. In addition, they would grant extensive commercial and missionary rights to France throughout the country, while Huế would have to pay Paris a large financial indemnity. This resulted in the creation of the French colony of Cochinchina.

Circling back to Siam, as mentioned, in 1856, France successfully negotiated a comprehensive commercial treaty with that country, opening a consulate in Bangkok later that year. King Mongkut (Rama IV, reigned 1851-68) was a transformative leader, who was in process of overseeing a sweeping programme of economic, military and social modernization. His reign is considered to be a golden period in modern Thai history, immortalized in Margaret Landon's book *Anna and the King of Siam* and Roger & Hammerstein's resulting musical *The King and I*. Mongkut had also signed treaties with other powers, notably Britain and the United States, and during the 1860s the Western commercial and missionary presence in Bangkok was booming.

A matter of direct relevance to the bigger picture was the issue of Cambodia. That country, ruled by King Narodom (reigned 1859 - 1904), while a nominally independent nation, was claimed as a protectorate by both Siam and Vietnam. As of late, Vietnam had the stronger case on the ground, having won the Siamese-Vietnamese War of 1831-4. As France gained a foothold of territory in southern Vietnam, Cambodia's political fate came to complicate her relations with both Bangkok and Huế.

Enter Gabriel Aubaret, a French naval officer, who had gained favourable notice at the highest levels in Paris for his service during the Crimean War and, more recently, in China. Aubaret had an astounding, almost superhuman talent for languages. In addition to speaking various European languages, he mastered Turkish and Mandarin Chinese. Arriving in Vietnam at the beginning of 1861, he picked up the Vietnamese language with amazing ease, being perhaps the only senior French official to attain perfect fluency. He was subsequently promoted to become Admiral Bonnard's aide-de-camp, where he acted as the chief interpreter for the French side in negotiations with the Vietnamese.

In the wake of the Treaty of Saigon, Bonnard, who was made the provisional governor of French Cochinchina, agreed to place the day-to-day administration of the conquered provinces in the hands of the established Vietnamese bureaucracy, which was to be overseen by a senior French official, the Chief Inspector of Native Affairs. Aubaret, due to his language and diplomatic skills, leapfrogged more senior candidates, to assume this position. He oversaw the civil service with great skill and verve. He also translated and wrote some of the era's most important academic works on Vietnam, including *Grammaire annamite et annamite-français* (Bangkok, 1861), first published work on Vietnamese grammar; *Histoire et description de la basse Cochinchine* (Paris,

1863), an important history of Southern Vietnam; and the *Code Annamite*, 2 vols. (Paris, 1865), the first published and translated legal code of the country. This work ensured that Napoleon III and many of his top officials regarded Aubaret as a foremost authority on Vietnam, giving him tremendous influence, perhaps beyond his station.

Meanwhile, while the Vietnamese negotiators had orally accepted the terms of the Treaty of Saigon, as the months dragged on, Tu Duc seemed to have second thoughts. He found surrendering territory to a foreign power to be unacceptable, and he proposed paying France a larger indemnity in exchange for being allowed to maintain sovereignty over all his country.

Aubaret was an effective and sincere supporter of French imperialism. However, he was also a moderate in terms of the debate regarding France's role in Vietnam. He considered conquering territory to be undesirable as it would be prohibitively expensive, while fostering permanent Vietnamese resentment that would eventually undermine France's commercial and Christian missionary objectives. It also must be considered that Aubaret, as an admirer of the Vietnamese language and culture, and someone who had extensively worked with Vietnamese people on friendly terms, possessed a higher level of respect for the local society than his countryman, as so would not wish to see a proud and sophisticated nation be unnecessarily humiliated. Whatever his motives, Aubaret received Tu Duc's request to renegotiate the terms of the Treaty of Saigon favourably, formulating the 'Aubaret Plan' which would return Vietnamese sovereignty to the ceded provinces, while anchoring a permanent French commercial and religious presence in the country, protected by military safeguards.

In December 1863, Aubaret accompanied a special Vietnamese embassy to Paris, led by Phan Thanh Gian, to secure Napoleon III's approval of the Aubaret Plan. Importantly, almost all the French establishment in Vietnam supported the 'colonialist' camp in its desire to retain French control over the ceded Vietnamese provinces. The situation in Paris was more mixed, with both the colonialist and the moderate camps backed by powerful figures.

Aubaret, echoed by Ambassador Phan, managed to convince Napoleon III to agree to revise the Treaty of Saigon on Tu Duc's terms. The cost of the ongoing war in Mexico was exorbitant, and this factor proved to have tipped the scales. Nevertheless, the emperor's decision, and Aubaret's role in the matter, provoked a wave of outrage against Aubaret from conservative officials in Paris, and well as nearly universal condemnation from the French contingent in Saigon.

In January 1864, Aubaret was promoted to become the French Consul General in Bangkok (essentially ambassador to King Mongkut's court), as well as the special envoy to Tu Duc's court in Huế. Aubaret was now imbued with full authority to negotiate treaties with both courts and to settle matter regarding Cambodia, while overruling the 'colonialist designs' of the French officials in Saigon.

In this vein, Aubaret had another 'secret' agreement up his sleeve. Before leaving for Paris, he had negotiated a tentative agreement, dated August 11, 1863, with King Norodom that would make Cambodia a joint French-Siamese protectorate. This would protect French interests in that country, while preserving goodwill with Bangkok, as well as freezing Tu Duc out of the equation. Unbeknownst to Aubaret and the French side, Mongkut and Norodom followed up with a secret Siamese-Cambodian treaty, signed December 11, 1863, that recognized Cambodia and a protectorate of Siam. While this agreement did not technically contradict the Franco-Siamese treaty, Aubaret, upon learning of its existence sometime later, considered it 'back handed'.

Aubaret arrived in Bangkok in April 1864 and was given the most lavish ceremonial welcome by Mongkut, who was appreciative of Aubaret's efforts in Cambodia. However, Aubaret, upon continuing to Saigon, received a frosty reception from the arch-colonialist commander-in-chief Admiral Charles Lagrandière and his officers, who were appalled by the no-yet-enacted 'Aubaret Plan'. Aubaret's reception in Hué, was, by contrast, extremely warm, at least on the surface, as Tu Duc was delighted that the Treaty of Saigon appeared to be amendable in his favour due to efforts of the French Special Envoy (notably he was unaware of the still secret Franco-Cambodian treaty). Having said that, Aubaret felt a nagging suspicion that Tu Duc was playing for time, hoping that the concessions on the Treaty of Saigon would eventually lead to a further softening France's position.

Meanwhile, in what could be called the 'empire strikes back', Lagrandière, supported by the Marquis de Chasseloup-Laubat, the French Colonial Minister, mounted a rear-guard action against Napoleon III's approval of the 'Aubaret Plan'. With great effort, in January 1865, they managed to convince the emperor to rescind his support for the moderate proposal, and to implement the original terms of the Treaty of Saigon of 1862. While this enraged Tu Duc, by this point he had no choice but to accept the exitance of the colony of Cochinchina in the midst of his realm. Aubaret had lost the political battle in Vietnam, so henceforth concentrated upon his other mandate in Bangkok.

The major Western players believed that Siam was too powerful to invade or colonize, but like Japan, it was possible to pressure the country into giving them special economic and political concessions. Notably, Britain, which controlled neighbouring Burma and Malaya, hoped to compel Siam to cede disputed borderlands.

Aubaret soon became one of the most prominent figures in Bangkok and was very effective in promoting French commercial and political interests at the Siamese court. This was of great concern to the British and American consuls there, who felt that Aubaret was a grave danger to their national interests. There is ample evidence that the British and American diplomatic establishment, often working in concert, mounted a character assassination campaign against Aubaret. While it seems Aubaret could, at times, behave in an arrogant and theatrical manner, there is no evidence that he ever behaved violently or inappropriately. However, British and American agents spread vicious rumours about him. Anna Leonowens, the schoolmaster to King Mongkut's children and his sometime secretary and interpreter, despised Aubaret, who appears as the arch-villain in Margaret Landon's famous semi-historical bestseller *Anna and the King of Siam*. In what Landon called the "L'affaire française", Leonowens' character claims that Aubaret physically assaulted a prominent Siamese judge who happened to be the cousin of the king. Even worse, Dr. Dan Beach Bradley, a prominent American physician and journalist in the city, often publicly attacked Aubaret. Most critically, in December 1866, he asserted in a newspaper article that Aubaret had said very negative things against King Mongkut (*laissez-majesté* is a particularly severe offense in Thai culture). For this, Aubaret successfully sued Bradley for libel.

Aubaret's designs were controversial. When his plans for Vietnam became undone, he devised a scheme that would maintain France's interests in Cambodia, while preserving good relations with Siam. Accordingly, he decided to amend his plan for Cambodia, to strengthen France's hand, while satisfying Siam's interests. Aubaret concluded an accord with Mongkut's court, sometimes called the 'Aubaret Treaty' whereby France was made the sole overlord over Cambodia, removing Siam from jointly holding that role, while giving a large amount of disputed Cambodian territory,

including Battambang and Angkor, to Siam. While what was left of Cambodia was supposed to be an autonomous state, ruled by King Narododm, Aubaret sold out Cambodia in the interests of France-Siamese amity. The provisional, but never ratified 'Aubaret Treaty' formed the basis of the Franco-Siamese Treaty of July 15, 1867, which essentially allowed France to gain political suzerainty over Cambodia.

Aubaret left Bangkok, and the Far East, for the last time in April 1867, destined for a new diplomatic posting in the Ottoman Empire. Aubaret left behind a powerful legacy in Indochina. While his designs for a friendlier French presence in Vietnam were overruled in favour of colonial occupation, his academic works on the country informed Franco-Vietnamese cross-cultural exchange for decades. While the villain of Anna Leonowens' story, Aubaret was responsible for dramatically strengthening Franco-Siamese ties, resulting in the expansion of French trade and missionary activities in the country and preserving favourable bilateral relations that lasted for a generation. However, in the interests of advancing the Franco-Siamese relationship, he also opened the way for Cambodia to be consumed by France, advancing a form of colonialism that he had originally opposed.

As it would turn out, in the years after Aubaret's departure from the region, France would aggressively double-down its colonial ambitions in Indochina. In 1867, France annexed the southern Vietnamese provinces of Chau Doc, Ha Tien and Vinh Long to Cochinchina. Tonkin and Annam were later made French protectorates, while Cambodia was more fully brought under French domination. In 1887, France declared the creation of the Union of French Indochina, embracing all these lands. France and Siam's interests eventually came to loggerheads, for following the Franco-Siamese War of 1893, France added Laos to the Union. France would maintain its present in Indochina until it was defeated by local forces, namely the Vietnamese communists, during the First Indochina War (1946-54).

THE ARCHIVE IN FOCUS

PART I.

Gabriel AUBARET (1825 - 1894).

[Gabriel Aubaret's Diplomatic Letter Book from Vietnam and Bangkok].

[Letters composed in Hué, Saigon, Bangkok and Paris dated from 1864 to 1867, but contents likely copied in 1867].

Tall Quarto (33.5 x 21.5 cm), 155 pp. (unnumbered) manuscript, black pen in a neat cursive hand, followed by numerous blank pages, bound in original orange and black marbled boards with black cloth spine (Excellent condition, internally clean and crisp, very light shelf-wear to binding).

The centrepiece of the present archive is Aubaret's manuscript 'diplomatic letter book', concerning his dual diplomatic mandates as the Special Envoy to the Court of Emperor Tu Duc at Hué and as the Consul General to the Court of King Mongkut in Bangkok; it is accordingly divided into two sections. The letter book is an extremely important primary historical source, at it features the text of top-secret, high-level correspondence, provisional treaty negotiations, as well as accounts of audiences with kings and emperors.

All heads of french diplomatic missions were expected to retain copies of all official correspondence, to be composed in books according to strict protocols. The books were to include letters addressed from the heads of mission to the french foreign minister, grouped into sequential numbered letters under categories such as 'direction politique', concerning letters on political affairs and 'direction commerciale', featuring correspondence about economic matters. Here most of aubaret's letters are addressed to edouard drouyn de lhuys (1805-81), who served as the french foreign minister from october 1862 to september 1866, while the latest correspondence is addressed to lionel de moustier (1817-69), who served as foreign minister from october 1866 to december 1868. As all consular-ministerial correspondence was considered to be 'state secrets'. Here aubaret is exceptionally candid, expressing he personal opinions on the actions of vietnamese, thai and french, as well as british and american stakeholders. While always formal and proper, aubaret's writing style is engaging, ensuring that the letter book is a surprisingly pleasant read.

Importantly, the first section, concerning aubaret's brief, yet important, diplomatic mission to vietnam, appears to be a complete run of the 'direction politique' correspondence. However, the second, and much lengthier, section regarding his three-year long consulship in bangkok is not a complete run of aubaret's correspondence, but features aubaret's selection of 'highlights', or only the most important documents.

The present letter book, written in a neat cursive hand, seems to have been created immediately upon the conclusion of Aubaret's service in Indochina, in 1867. The chronological ordering and neatness of the work, plus the fact that the Bangkok section only features highlights, indicates that it may have been made by Aubaret to serve as a replacement for an earlier version, which had perhaps become 'grubby' from being carried about in a tropical climate. It was common for diplomats to create such a work to serve as a permanent record of their overseas missions.

Aubaret retained the present letter book for the rest of life, and his wife, Thérèse Aubaret, quoted extensively from its contents in the biography of her late husband that she published in Poitiers in 1898.

This first section of the letter book, concerning the "Mission de France à Hué" (55 pages in length) features a complete set of Aubaret's correspondence to Minister Drouyn during the almost six weeks he spent on mission in Vietnam in June and July 1864. Aubaret had arrived at the court of Tu Duc after returning from Paris, having accompanied the embassy of Phan Thanh Gian. This section includes nine diplomatic letters and two commercial letters, plus important annexes, dating from between June 18 and July 27, 1864 (all letters were written from Hué, save for the last, which was written from Saigon).

One of the highlights of this section is the 'Direction politique No. 2', dated June 20, 1864, whereupon Aubaret recounts to Drouyn an extremely detailed and fascinating account of the consul's audience with the emperor at the royal place in Hué. The general scene is described, followed by an engaging account of the emperor's character and physical appearance. The Annex to 'Direction politique No. 4' features Aubaret's extensive revisions to the Treaty of Saigon (June 5, 1862), being the so-called 'Aubaret Plan' to reset Franco-Vietnamese relations, that he presented to the Tu Duc for his approval; it is an important record of a highly controversial, yet never-realized design (recall that Napoleon III initially approved the 'Aubaret Plan', before vetoing it in January 1865). The 'Direction commerciale No. 1' features the text of a proposed

Note sur la Cochinchine.

Exposé de la question
à son origine.

Il y a cinq ans que la question de Cochinchine a occupé sérieusement le Gouvernement de l'Empereur.

Il s'agissait d'abord de donner uniquement un appui moral à la cause des missionnaires, depuis longtemps assez mal traités par le gouvernement d'Annam, qui rejette en principe la religion chrétienne.

Les dangers courus par les missionnaires n'ayant en aucune occasion diminué leur zèle, il a dû nécessairement arriver dans un royaume aussi strictement réglé que celui d'Annam, que les derniers supplices infligés à quelques uns d'entre eux ont de temps à autres ému l'Europe chrétienne.

C'est sous le coup d'un supplice récent et d'une émotion semblable que l'expédition de Cochinchine fut entreprise.

Il ne s'agissait alors que d'une démonstration suffisamment vigoureuse pour montrer à la Cour de Hué, l'horreur qu'éprouvait l'Europe pour ces barbares exécutions et amener en même temps cette cour à quelque stipulation qui satisfait à la fois les intérêts de religion et d'humanité dont la France s'honore.

Il n'entre nullement dans notre sujet de relater les diverses opérations militaires qui ont eu lieu pendant un aussi long laps de temps, nous nous proposons uniquement d'exposer le côté politique et moral de cette question et nous tâcherons après cet exposé de chercher une solution capable au moins d'arrêter de

Franco-Vietnamese Trade & Commerce Treaty. The ‘Direction politique No. 6’, dated July 18, is the text of a letter written from Tu Duc to Napoleon III, essentially thanking him for approving the ‘Aubaret Plan’, and allowing him to maintain sovereignty over the three previously ceded provinces. In the ‘Direction politique No. 7’, dated July 19, Aubaret makes a candid admission to Drouyn, remarking how the Vietnamese and the French establishment in Vietnam are at loggerheads over the Aubaret Plan; it is a forewarning of the strong ‘colonialist’ pushback that the design would soon encounter. The ‘Direction commerciale No. 2’, dated July 19, features Ambassador Phan Thanh Gian’s farewell letter to Aubaret, written on the eve of the envoy’s departure from Hué.

The second section, concerns Aubaret’s high-level correspondence during his three-year tenure as the French Consul General to the court of King Mongkut of Siam, from 1864 to 1867 (91 pages in length). This section is more extensive than the one previous; however, it is not a complete run of Aubaret’s correspondence, but is rather a selection of highlights of the most important letters and annexes, selected by Aubaret, as a record of his experiences. Consequently, all the documents present are highly important and engaging, all mundane documents have been omitted. Included is a selection from Aubaret’s ‘Direction politique’ letters to the French Foreign Minister, with many important annexes, as well as copies of letters between key figures such as Emperor Napoleon III and King Mongkut. The documents date from between January 9, 1864 and April 18, 1867.

Most importantly, the documents reveal the ‘inside story’ of how Aubaret tried to manage the Franco-Siamese relationship especially with regards to the fate of Cambodia, leading to the creation of the provisional ‘Aubaret Treaty’, and the final Franco-Siamese Treaty of July 15, 1867. These secret documents reveal how Aubaret had to shepherd his controversial designs for Cambodia through a gauntlet of opposition, to eventually reach an accord that largely preserved his vision of Franco-Siamese relations.

Of great entertainment to the reader are Aubaret’s accounts of Thai royal ceremonies, including of his grand reception at King Mongkut’s palace, and as well as the elaborate funeral for the King’s brother.

The Siam section opens with Aubaret’s letter to Minister Drouyn, dated April 16, 1864, written only two days after the consul’s arrival in Bangkok, whereupon he recounts his meetings with the Siamese prime minister and the foreign minister. This is followed by an annex, entitled “Ceremonial observé à Bangkok pour la reception par le 1er roi”, where Aubaret recounts the incredibly grand and exotic welcome reception, which was done in his honour, leading to an audience with King Mongkut on April 15, 1864. Aubaret’s account is exceedingly detailed and is perhaps the most entertaining document in the entire letter book. Aubaret notes that a cortège of 39 boats from the royal palace pulled up in the canal in front of the French consulate. Aubaret and his diplomatic entourage were ushered into the barques, upon which travel was commenced towards the royal place, while the party was entertained by an orchestra of 29 musicians, playing 7 different named types of instruments. Upon the party’s arrival at the royal place, they were greeted by another cortège of 12 cavaliers, 100 soldiers in European dress, 100 pikemen, 40 soldiers with guns and 20 attendants, while an orchestra of 145 musicians played. A series of cannon salutes followed, while an elaborate process was undertaken to transport Napoleon III’s letter to King Mongkut (which Aubaret had hand-carried from Paris) from the boats to the King. Upon entering the palace’s outer courtyard, the French party was greeted by formations of 1,500

men, whereupon Aubaret was invited into the King’s private audience hall, where Napoleon III’s letter was read aloud and gifts were exchanged. Following the audience, Aubaret was honoured by an extremely grand feast and party lasting many hours.

In the next document, labelled as the ‘Direction politique, no. 3’, Aubaret recounts to Drouyn his discussions with the Siamese prime minister regarding Aubaret’s plans for Cambodia, which called for the country to be a joint Franco-Siamese protectorate, as had been previously agreed by Siam, and as provisionally approved by Napoleon III.

Next, Aubaret provides the text to two letters from Napoleon III to King Mongkut, dated January 12, 1864 and October 3, 1864. The tone of both is extremely cordial and in line with Aubaret’s desire to promote Franco-Siamese cooperation.

The next letter marked ‘Direction politique’, dated January 9, 1864, circles back to when Aubaret, then in Paris, first received his appointment to become the Consul in Bangkok. He discusses various aspects of the ‘Aubaret Plan’ he forged for Vietnam, as well as the agreement he secured for Cambodia to be jointly overseen by France and Siam. He is quite clearly aware that informing the arch-colonialist Admiral Lagrandière, the head of the French forces in Vietnam, of these ‘moderate’ designs will not be a pleasant experience.

The next letter fast forwards almost of year and was written by Aubaret to Drouyn on December 1, 1864. Striking a very different tone from the former, Aubaret comes to the realization that the ‘Gig is Up’, in that he had just gained word that Lagrandière’s rear-guard action was effective in convincing Napoleon III to rescind his provisional approval for the ‘Aubaret Plan’ for Vietnam – France would, now possess and govern territories in that country against Aubaret’s advice. This document is followed by the text of a note from Drouyn to Lagrandière informing him of the new turn of events.

In the ‘Direction politique No. 9’, dated December 22, 1866, a highly important and lengthy letter, Aubaret discusses how news of the secret Siamese-Cambodian treaty of December 1863 has been leaked and that this has “caused grave difficulties for Siam”. Aubaret had to move quickly to defend his vision for Cambodia, not only against French ‘colonialists’, but also the British and American consuls in Bangkok.

The ‘Direction politique No. 12’, dated January 13, 1867, features the anatomy of the developing ‘Aubaret Treaty’, the Consul’s design to protect France’s interests in Cambodia, while maintaining good relations with Siam (by essentially selling out Cambodia!).

In a letter dated February 21, 1867, Aubaret gives a detailed account of the elaborate funeral held for the King’s brother (called the “Second King”), a ceremony predicated upon court rituals and traditional Buddhist customs.

Towards the end of the book, are copies of two letters from the Foreign Minister to Aubaret, dated February 18 and April 18, 1867, that detail the emerging French position that would soon lead to the Franco-Siamese Treaty of July 15, 1867, which would make France the sole overlord of Cambodia, while granting Siam large expanses of Cambodian territory.

The letter book concludes with the text of the U.S. Consular Court’s judgement, dated February 5, 1867, convicting Dr. Dan Beach Bradley of libel against Aubaret, in what must have been a moment of vindication for the French consul.

PART II:

Gabriel AUBARET (1825 - 1894).

Note sur la Cochinchine.

[nd., but late 1863].

Tall quarto, improvised printing technique in black, 24 pp., tied with original string, never bound (Excellent condition, clean, crisp and bright).

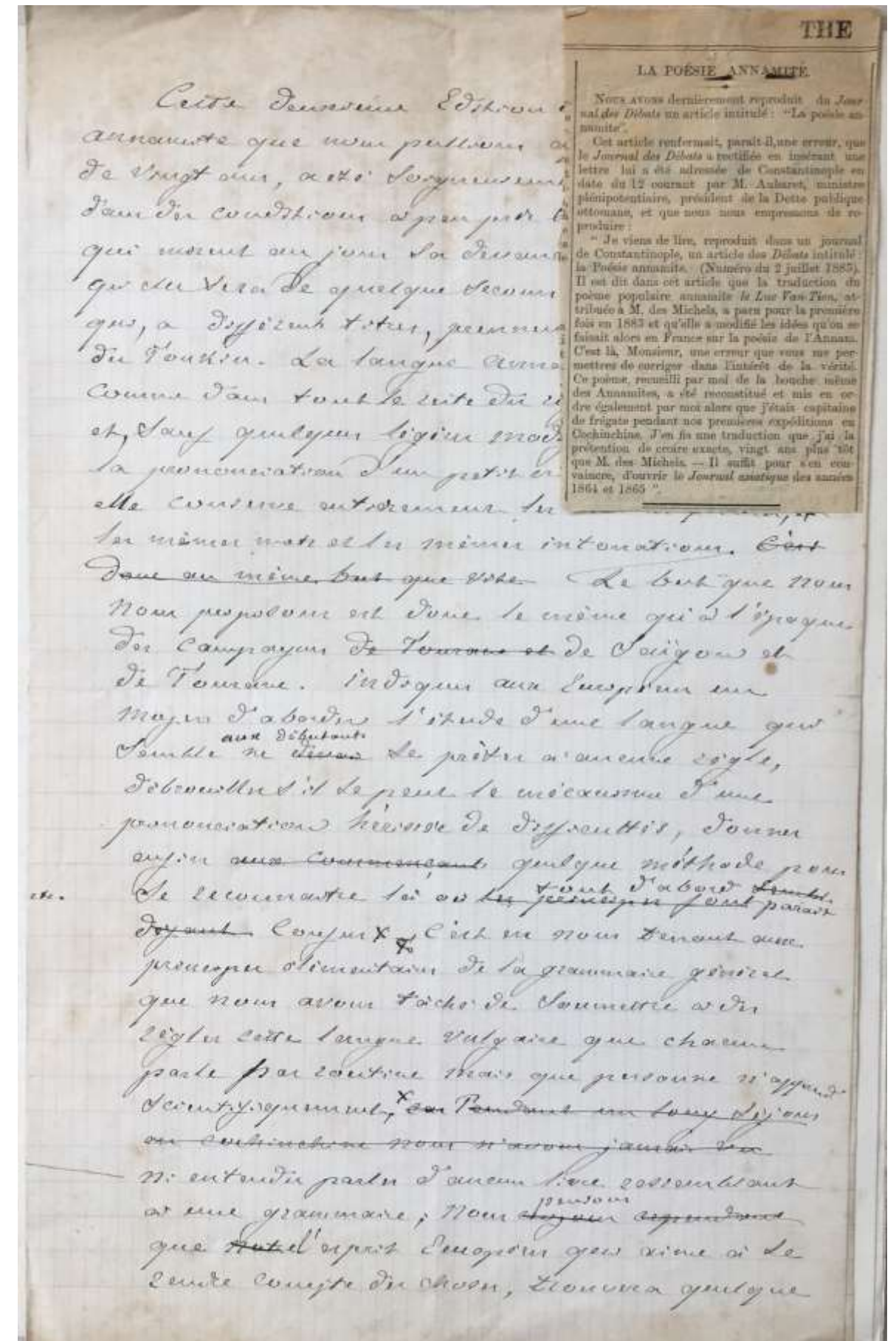
This highly important, top-secret hectographed report was written by Aubaret late in 1863, as he accompanied the Siamese Embassy to meet Napoleon III in Paris. It was clearly made exclusively for the consideration of the emperor and his senior ministers. It provides an excellent overview of the recent history and current state of Vietnam, drawing upon Aubaret's unique experience as the Chief Inspector of Native Affairs and his brilliant mastery of the Vietnamese language. It starts out by recalling the events that led France to invade Vietnam during the Cochinchina Campaign, as well as the course of the war itself. Aubaret discusses the country's administrative system; the 'Annamite' (Vietnamese) language; the role of the Chinese language (spoken by the high bureaucracy); the education system (including both native and French-run schools); the role of Christianity in Vietnam; the state of the country's military; the all-important agrarian sector; commerce and maritime trade; and forestry. Towards the end, he discusses the status of Cambodia, as well as the role of French diplomatic agents in Hué and Bangkok.

Extremely well-written and insightful, the report seems to serve two purposes; first, to educate the emperor and his cabinet on the true state of a land on the other side of the world that France wished to govern; and second, to act a strong exhibit supporting Aubaret's desire to gain a more senior appointment in Indochina. It seems that the report did the trick, for Napoleon III appointed Aubaret to the dual roles as Consul General to Bangkok and Special Envoy to Hué in January 1864.

The present report was duplicated by an improvised printing technique intended to create a very small number of copies, reserved for confidential purposes. Not surprisingly, the present document is exceedingly rare, we cannot trace a reference to, let alone the location of another example, although one might be located somewhere in French official archives.

PART III (DIVERSE DOCUMENTS)

The third part of the archive features a collection of diverse documents retained by Aubaret relating to his time in Indochina. Included are three original manuscript letters addressed to Aubaret by Henri-Alexis Grapinet (dated March 27, September 15 and December 17, 1869), the new French Consul in Bangkok (the latter two letters are written on 'Consulat de France à Bangkok' letterhead). There is also another letter, written to Aubaret by a contact in Saigon, dated August 31, 1868. These letters inform Aubaret of events that occurred in the region in the wake of his return to Europe. Also included is a letter from the Russian Imperial Academy of Sciences, dated St. Petersburg, January 29, 1868, thanking Aubaret for sending the academy a copy of his *Grammaire Annamite*. Additionally, there is an official certificate from the Spanish government, dated May 8, 1864, written in the name of Queen Isabella II, conferring upon Aubaret the award of the Cross of San Fernando, First Class, in recognition of his military service during the Franco-Spanish campaign in Vietnam. Finally, there is manuscript draft letter written by Aubaret in the 1880s, when he lived in Constantinople, serving as the President of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration, commenting upon the recent re-publication of *Grammaire Annamite*.



Gabriel Aubaret: A Life of Adventure and High-Level Diplomacy

Louis-Gabriel-Galdéric *Aubaret* was a highly consequential figure in the diplomatic and economic affairs of the Ottoman Empire and the Balkans during the second half of the 19th Century. He held various important military, political, and commercial appointments in the region over a period of forty years. Additionally, he was renowned for perhaps being the person most responsible for ensuring that Vietnam came under French rule.

Aubaret was born in 1825 in Montpellier to a respected family of lawyers. Uninterested in the law and restless in a provincial city, he longed to see the world. In 1841, he enrolled at the *École Navale (Brest)*, joining the French Navy in 1844. He subsequently served on a variety of vessels, visiting places throughout the Mediterranean and the West Indies.

As a lieutenant, he served with distinction during the Crimean War (1853-56), commanding his own vessel on several occasions, notably at the Siege of Sebastopol. During this time, he gained a fascination for the Ottoman Empire and its many cultures; quickly learning Turkish and Arabic. He forged friendships with several influential Ottoman officers and politicians, connections which would become useful later in his career.

In 1856-7 Aubaret served as the chief science officer (and second-in-command) of a prestigious expedition to discover the headwaters of the Nile, led by the explorer the Comte d'Escayrac, and backed by the Khedive of Egypt. Although the venture was well-funded and included scientists of international distinction, it was almost immediately derailed, barely making it past Cairo, due to Escayrac's eccentric and dictatorial behaviour.

After the failure of the Nile mission, Aubaret returned to France where he had a highly public romance with Rachel Félix (1821-58), better known as 'Mademoiselle Rachel', a world-famous French actress, which ended shortly before her untimely death.

In 1860, Aubaret, as captain of his own vessel, sailed to China as part of the French involvement in the Second Opium War, and was present at the taking of Peking. There he impressed his superiors with his amazingly quick mastery of Chinese and his stellar diplomatic skills. This led to Aubaret's consequential roles in Vietnam and Siam, as showcased in the present archive.

In 1867, Aubaret returned home from Bangkok, eager for a posting to the Balkans or the Ottoman Empire which, despite his love for Southeast Asia, remained his true passion. He also ended his long run as a bachelor, marrying *Thérèse Granier*, with whom he would have a happy union.

In February 1868, Aubaret was appointed as the French Consul-General at Scutari (Shkodër), Ottoman Albania. That such a highly respected 'star' diplomat was given this post was a sign of how important Albania and Montenegro then figured in French foreign policy. Moreover, the post was so challenging, that only an envoy of uncommon ability and enthusiasm could handle the file. After serving for two action-packed years in Albania, Aubaret was hastily recalled home for military service in the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1).

After the conflict, in 1872, Aubaret was appointed as the Consul-General at Smyrna (Izmir), the second most important French diplomatic posting in Turkey. While honourific, he found the role boring, as he largely handled matters of maritime trade, with little of the political melodrama that he relished.

In 1873, Aubaret was transferred to become Consul-General at Rustchuk (Ruse), Bulgaria, a major port city on the Danube. Bulgaria was then a directly ruled part of the Ottoman Empire, and its Slavic people were seething with revolutionary sentiment. Aubaret relished the opportunity to promote France's significant regional interests against the efforts of Austrian and Russian spies, in the days immediately before the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-8, which secured Bulgaria's independence.

Aubaret's next assignment was to serve as the Commissioner of the Serbian-Ottoman Boundary Survey, operating largely along the Serbo-Bosnian frontier. In 1880, Aubaret was appointed as a French Minister Plenipotentiary to the Ottoman Empire, with special responsibility for affairs in Eastern Rumelia, an autonomous Ottoman region in south-eastern Bulgaria. This gave him valuable experience for his future role in overseeing the completion of the Rumelian Railway in the same area.

In 1881, Sultan Abdul Hamid II ordained the creation of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration (OPDA), which became the most powerful economic entity in the Ottoman Empire. Aubaret was appointed as the OPDA's founding President, serving several terms spanning a decade.

During his presidency, Aubaret handled the politically sensitive tasks of managing large parts of the Ottoman economy with great energy and competence. He spoke fluent Turkish and counted many long-time friends at the Ottoman Court and amongst Constantinople's expatriate community.

In addition to his role at the OPDA, from 1885 to 1888, Aubaret served as the chief operating officer of a special enterprise that was responsible for completing the railway connecting Constantinople with the rest of Europe, a line that subsequently carried *The Orient Express*.

In 1892, Aubaret retired from his place at the height of Constantinople society and moved with his family back to France, settling in Poitiers. There he died in 1894, having lived the experience of many lifetimes. Aubaret's widow, *Thérèse*, wrote her husband's biography, which was published in Poitiers in 1898.

References: Archive Elements directly quoted in: Thérèse AUBARET, *Gabriel Aubaret* (Poitiers: Librairie H. Oudin, [1898]), pp. 163 – 230. Cf. [Re: Background and Aubaret's Role in Indochina:] Lawrence Palmer BRIGGS, 'The Aubaret Versus Bradley Case at Bangkok 1866-67', *The Far Eastern Quarterly*, vol. 6, no. 3, 1947, pp. 262–282; Lawrence Palmer BRIGGS, 'Aubaret and the Treaty of July 15, 1867 between France and Siam', *The Far Eastern Quarterly*, vol. 6, no. 2, 1947, pp. 122–138; Alfred HABEGGER, *Masked: The Life of Anna Leonowens, Schoolmistress at the Court of Siam* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2014), esp. pp. 296-302; George C. KINGSTON, *James Madison Hood: Lincoln's Consul to the Court of Siam* (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., 2013), pp. 162-183; Margaret LANDON, *Anna and the King of Siam* (New York: The John Day Company, 1943), pp. 240-1, 260-7, 286, 231-6, 354, 369-74; Jim MIZERSKI, *Cambodia Captured: Angkor's First Photographers in 1860's Colonial Intrigues* (Phnom Penh, 2016), esp. pp. 33-40; Susan MORGAN, *Bombay Anna: The Real Story and Remarkable Adventures of the 'King and I' Governess* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008), esp. pp. 156-7; K.W. TAYLOR, *A History of the Vietnamese* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), p. 265-6.

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