

OCCITAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

A SHORT LIST



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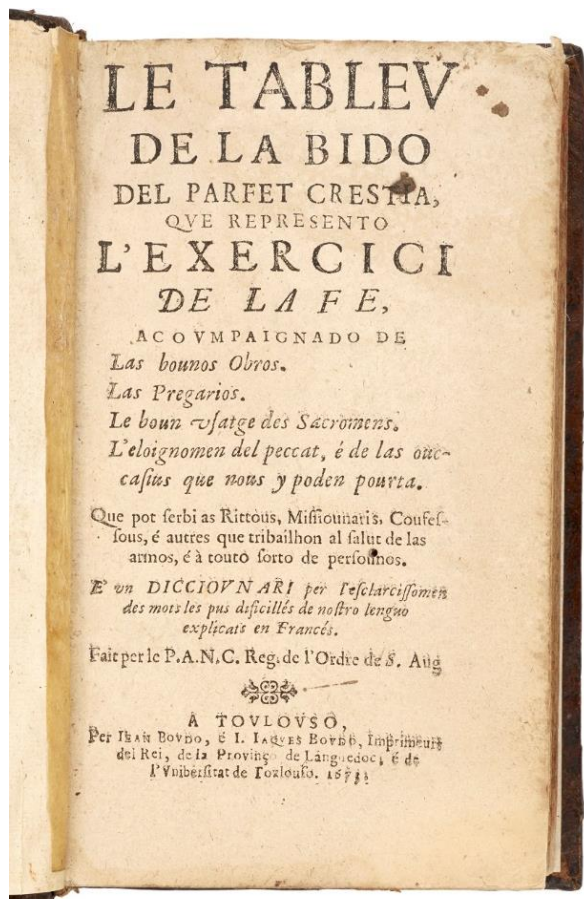
BADA
MEMBER



1. **AMILIA, Barthélemy.** Le tableau de la bido del parfet Crestia, que represento l'exercici de la fe, acoumpaignado de las bounos obros, las pregaris, le boun usatge des sacromens, l'eloignomen del peccat ... Que pot serbi rittous, missiounaris, coufessous, é autres ... E un diccionari per l'esclarcissomen des mots ... Fait per le P.A.N.C. reg. de l'ordre de S. Aug. Toulouse, Jean Boudo et J. Jacques Boudo, 1673.

8vo, pp. [48], 358, [66]; with printed music at end; woodcut initials, head- and tail-pieces; small marks to title-page, a few wormholes touching some words; overall very good in contemporary dark brown calf, spine gilt in compartments; neat repairs at head and foot of spine and to corners.

£975



Scarce first edition of this collection of meditational and devotional verses in Toulousain Occitan, covering, besides much else, Christ's passion, remedies against temptation, guardian angels, the sacraments, the seven joys of the Virgin, the seven gates of hell, paradise, and sin, including debauchery and vanity in clothing. The preliminaries include a 16-page word list with translations into French (e.g. 'Leba-léguo: se reposer, respir des vigneron qu'ils prennent pour se delasser, ou le temps de leur refection'), **while the final quires comprise 32 short devotional pieces of music.** Amilia (d. 1673) was an Augustinian canon, archpriest of Pamiers cathedral, and a noted composer of canticles.

OCLC and COPAC record only the British Library copy in the UK (imperfect, lacking music at end), and 2 copies in the US (at Harvard and SMU).

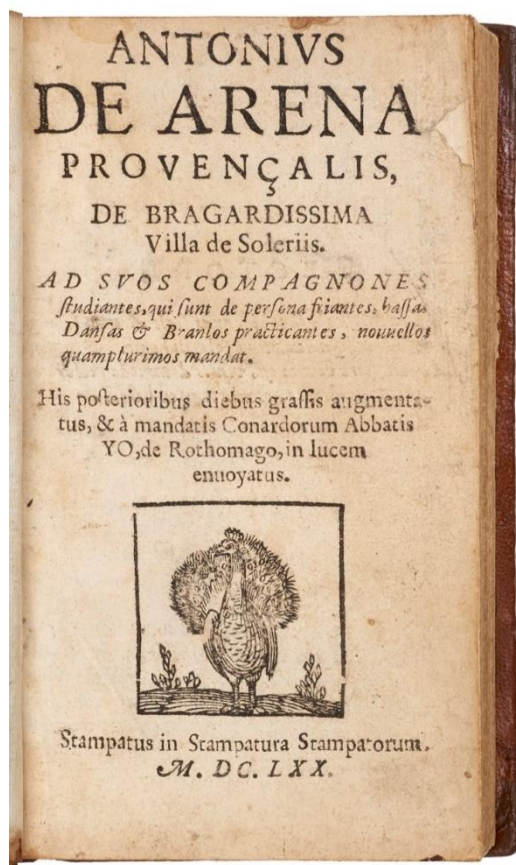
MACARONIC VERSE ON WAR, STUDENT LIFE, AND DANCING

2. **ARENA, Antoine et al.** Antonius de Arena Provençal de bragardissima villa de Soleris. Ad suos compaignones studiantes, qui sunt de persona friantes, bassas dansas et branlos practicantes, nouvellos plurimos mandat ... '*Stampatus in Stampatura Stampatorum*' [i.e. Paris?], 1670.

12mo, pp. 191, [1 blank]; woodcut device of peacock to title; small loss at fore-edge of title (repair to verso), a few spots and marks, light damp stain to last few leaves; very good in contemporary sheep, spine gilt in compartments with lettering-piece, marbled endpapers; joints and corners neatly repaired.

£750

'Édition la plus complète' (Brunet) of this collection of macaronic verse, of which the Provençal poet Arena (c. 1508-63, law student at the University of Avignon, soldier in the French army, and later a judge at Solliers) was the earliest and most notable French exponent.



The first part comprises Arena's *Ad suos compagnones* (first published Lyon 1528), a delightful mix of Latin, Provençal and Italian. From a harrowing eye-witness account of the sack of Rome in 1527 by Charles V's army, and the subsequent war of Naples and revolt of Genoa in 1528, Arena moves to the lighter subject of the students of Provence (who, he tells us, are fine fellows, forever in love with pretty girls), and to the art of dancing. It was this latter section, amounting to a manual of dancing, which was the work's chief appeal, and which accounted for the thirty-nine editions published in Lyon and Paris in the 16th and 17th centuries. On pp. 86-89 Arena employs an intriguing stenographic notation system for designating dance steps.

This edition also features Rémy Belleau's 'Poema macaronicum de bello Huguenotico' and macaronic verse by Bartolomeo Bolla, including humorous lists of attributes associated with various Italian towns, and poems in the Bergamo dialect.

Brunet I, 393.

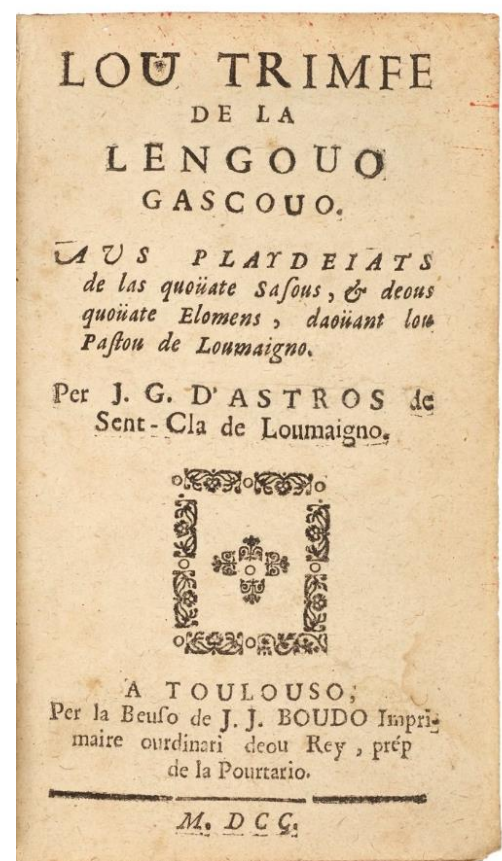
3. **ASTROS, Jean-Géraud d'.** Lou trimfe de la lengouo Gascoü. Aus playdeiats de las quouiäte sasous, et deous quouiäte elomens, daoüant lou pastou de Loumaigno ... *Toulouse, per la beuso de J. J. Boudo, 1700.*

12mo, pp. [12], 204; head- and tail-pieces; small loss to lower outer corner of leaf Dd touching only a few letters, slightly toned; very good in contemporary sheep, spine gilt in compartments; some wear to extremities and marks to covers.

£850

Second edition (first 1642) of this charming bucolic work by the Gascon hunchback poet Jean-Géraud d'Astros (1594-1648). In the first part ('The seasons') Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter argue their superiority, before being proclaimed of equal merit, while in the second part ('The elements') Fire, Air, Water, and Earth each vaunt their respective virtues to a shepherd of Lomagne (from whence d'Astros hailed), who judiciously finds much to admire in each.

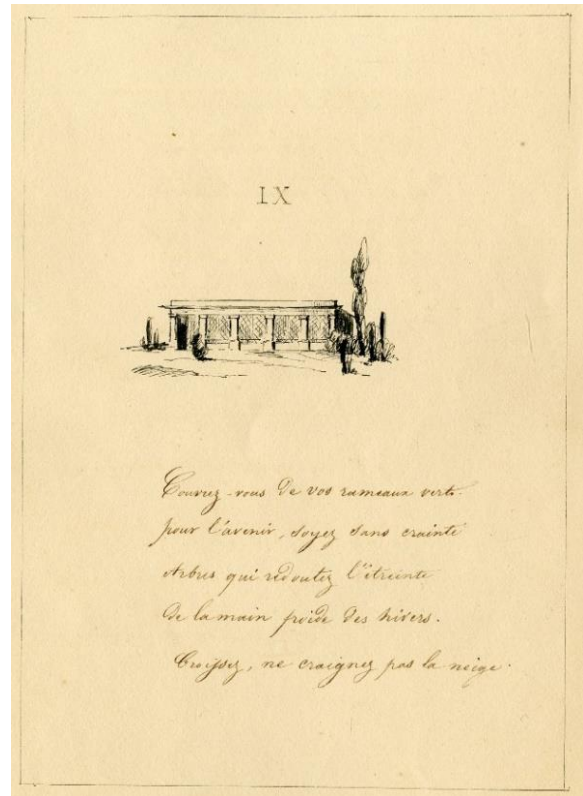
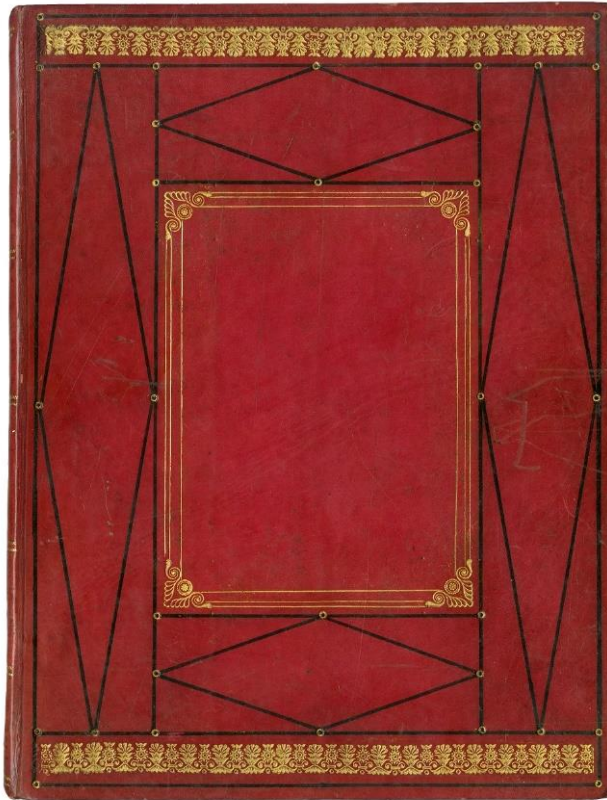
'Influenced by Virgil, du Bartas and Godolin, Dastros combines classicism and religiosity with burlesque, popular



speech and a little bawdiness' (James Thomas, *Grains of gold: an anthology of Occitan literature*, 2015, p. 305).

OCLC shows BL, NLS, and Birmingham in the UK; and Arizona, Kansas, and Maryland in the US.
No copy traced at auction since 1977.

WITH ORIGINAL LANDSCAPE VIGNETTES



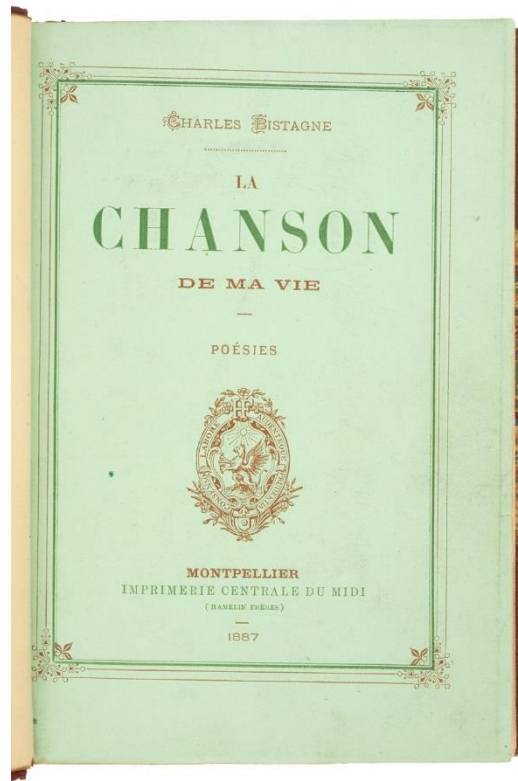
4. AZAÏS, Gabriel, and Charles LABOR. Illustrated manuscript volume of poetry, comprising 'Vingt-six janvier 1836' by Azaïs, and 'Marie' by Labor. [Béziers, c. 1836?]

Manuscript on paper, in French, 4to (26.5 x 20 cm), ff. [20], neatly written in brown ink within ruled borders, with 30 landscape vignettes in black ink, 19 incorporating initials; in fine condition in contemporary red polished calf, covers tooled with gilt central panel and roll-tool borders at head and foot, geometric lozenge pattern painted in black; both poems inscribed 'A Madame Donadieu'.

£1750

An attractive presentation volume, with poems by Azaïs (1805-1888) and Labor (1813-1900), and fine vignette sketches. Azaïs, later author of *Les Troubadours de Béziers* (1869) was a member of the Félibrige, the literary organisation founded by Frédéric Mistral to promote Occitan language and culture. Labor was a landscape painter, a secretary and close friend of Lamartine, author of a novel (*Marguerite*, 1837), and the founder and first conservator of the Musée des Beaux Arts de Béziers; the vignettes are presumably by him.

PRESENTATION COPY FROM THE AUTHOR



5. **BISTAGNE, Charles.** *La chanson de ma vie. Poésies. Montpellier, Imprimerie Centrale de Midi (Hamelin frères), 1887.*

12mo, pp. 239, [1]; photograph of author pasted to verso of half-title; title in red and black, text within red ruled border throughout; very good in half red morocco over marbled boards, spine in compartments tooled and lettered in gilt, marbled endpapers, original printed front wrapper (on green paper) bound in; extremities slightly worn; with presentation inscription in blue ink to free endpaper, 'A mon ami Mr Hamelin hommage et souvenir affectueux de l'auteur Ch. Bistagne'. **£300**

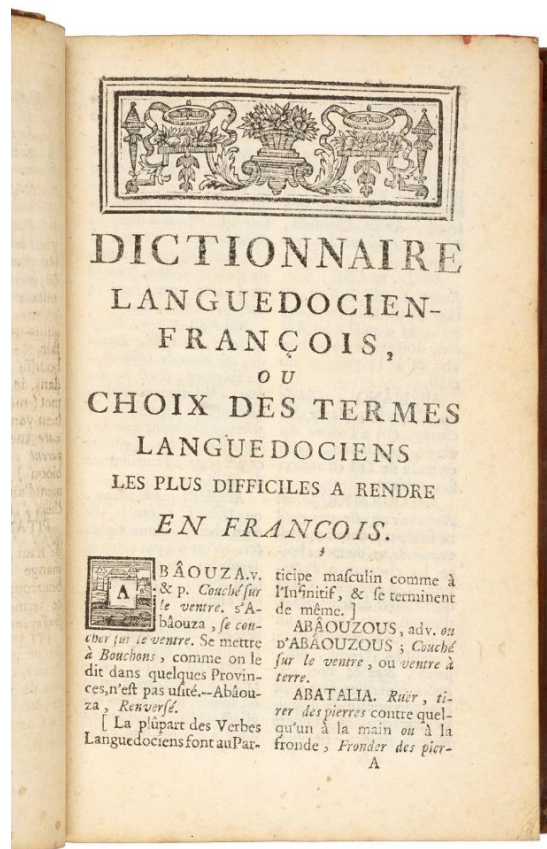
Scarce first edition of this collection of verse by the Marseille-born poet Charles Bistagne, an ode to Provence and to the Alps, this copy presented by him to the Montpellier printer Ernest Hamelin. Many of the poems are dedicated to individuals connected with the Félibrige, including Frédéric Mistral, Frédéric Donnadieu, Léon de Berluc-Pérussis, and the Irish poet William Bonaparte-Wyse.

OCLC finds no copies in the UK or US.

6. **BOISSIER DE SAUVAGES, Pierre-Augustin.** *Dictionnaire Languedocien-François, ou choix des mots Languedociens les plus difficiles à rendre en François. Contenant un recueil des principales fautes ... Avec un petit traité de prononciation et de prosodie Languedocienne. Ouvrage enrichi dans quelques-uns de ses articles de notes historiques et grammaticales, et d'observations de physique et d'histoire naturelle ... Nîmes, Michel Gaude, 1756 (colophon: Avignon, imprimerie de Merande, 1756).*

8vo, pp. xxxi, [1 blank], 492; woodcut head-piece and initial; a few leaves of quire b bumped at head, wormhole/track to blank lower margins from quire T to end, slightly browned; overall very good in

contemporary speckled calf, spine gilt in compartments with remains of lettering-piece, red edges, marbled endpapers; somewhat worn; old circular ink stamp to title. **£300**



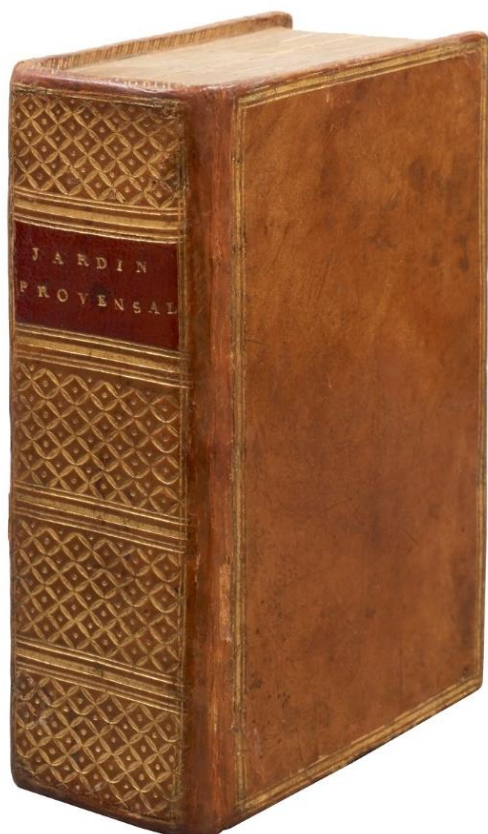
First edition of this important dictionary of the Languedocien dialect of Occitan by the naturalist and lexicographer Boissier de Sauvages (1710-1795), intended to preserve the language from the growing influence of French ('la langue de la capitale a gagné depuis bien moins de tems les provinces les plus reculées' p. vi).

The author's notes – much admired by Pierre Larousse – make the *Dictionnaire* an especially rich resource, with something informative and charming arising from every turn of page (e.g. 'PAN-FLAN. Mot populaire, inventé pour marquer la roideur avec laquelle on donne quelque coup ...').

7. **BRUEYS, Claude.** *Iardin deys musos Provensalos. Diuisat en quatre partidos. Per Claude Brueys escuyer d'Aix. Aix, Estienne David, 1628.*

4 parts in 1 vol., 16mo, pp. [14], 430; 131, [1]; [133]-302; [303]-425, [7]; each part with divisional title; neat paper repair to fore-edge of title, some soiling and loss to corners of A1, divisional titles to first 2 parts slightly cropped, part 2 quire b bound out of sequence, occasional light marks; overall very good in contemporary calf, gilt fillet border to covers, spine richly gilt in compartments with red morocco label, edges gilt, marbled endpapers; joints neatly repaired, extremities very slightly rubbed; very occasional underlining in ink. **£2000**

Rare first edition of this collection of the Provençal comedies, ballets, dialogues, epistles, poems and songs of the notable Aixois poet Claude Brueys (c.1570-c.1630). Composed largely in the 1590s and early years of the 17th century, before his marriage in 1609, Brueys' verse circulated in manuscript until this edition was issued by the press of Estienne David.



‘Brueys, particulièrement comme écrivain dramatique, occupera toujours le premier rang parmi les poètes Provençaux. Son drame a de l’originalité parce qu’il ne ressemble à aucun autre ... sa forme d’intrigue et la rapidité de son dialogue n’appartiennent qu’à lui. Quant au style, peu de nos poètes ont su mieux que lui connaître l’esprit et les ressources de notre vieille langue Provençale’ (A. Montreuil, *Poésies Provençales*, 1843, pp. 22-23).

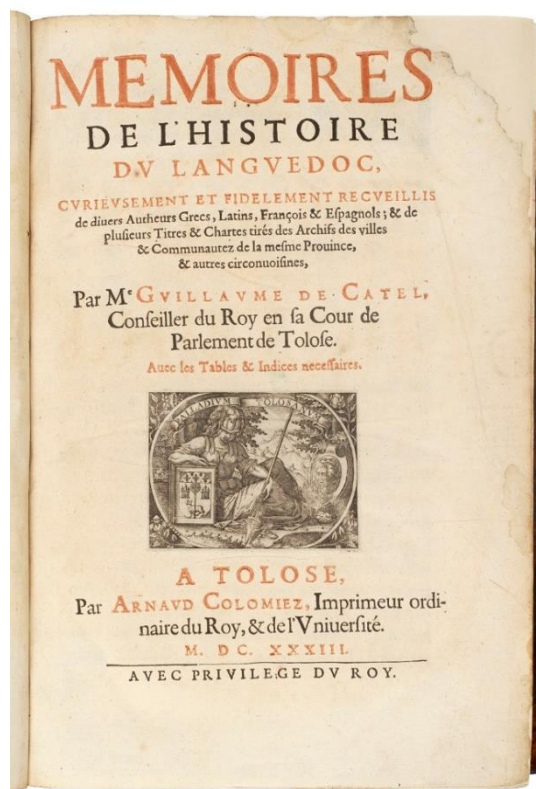
‘Located between the popular traditions and legends of folklore and the francophone milieu of the court of Aix, his comedies were performed for the mixed, polyglot audiences that Carnival encouraged ... Brueys’ corpus is characterised by its frankness regarding sex and other celebrations of the body’ (Thomas p. 344).

Brunet I, 1285 (‘Collection recherchée dont on trouve difficilement de beaux exemplaires’). **OCLC finds only 1 copy in the UK (British Library) and 1 in the US (Harvard).**

8. **CATEL, Guillaume.** *Memoires de l’histoire du Languedoc, curieusement et fidelement recueillis de diuers auteurs Grecs, Latins, François et Espagnols; et de plusieurs titres et chartres tirés des archifs des villes et communautéz de la mesme prouince, et autres circonuoisines ... Toulouse, Arnaud Colomiez, 1633.*

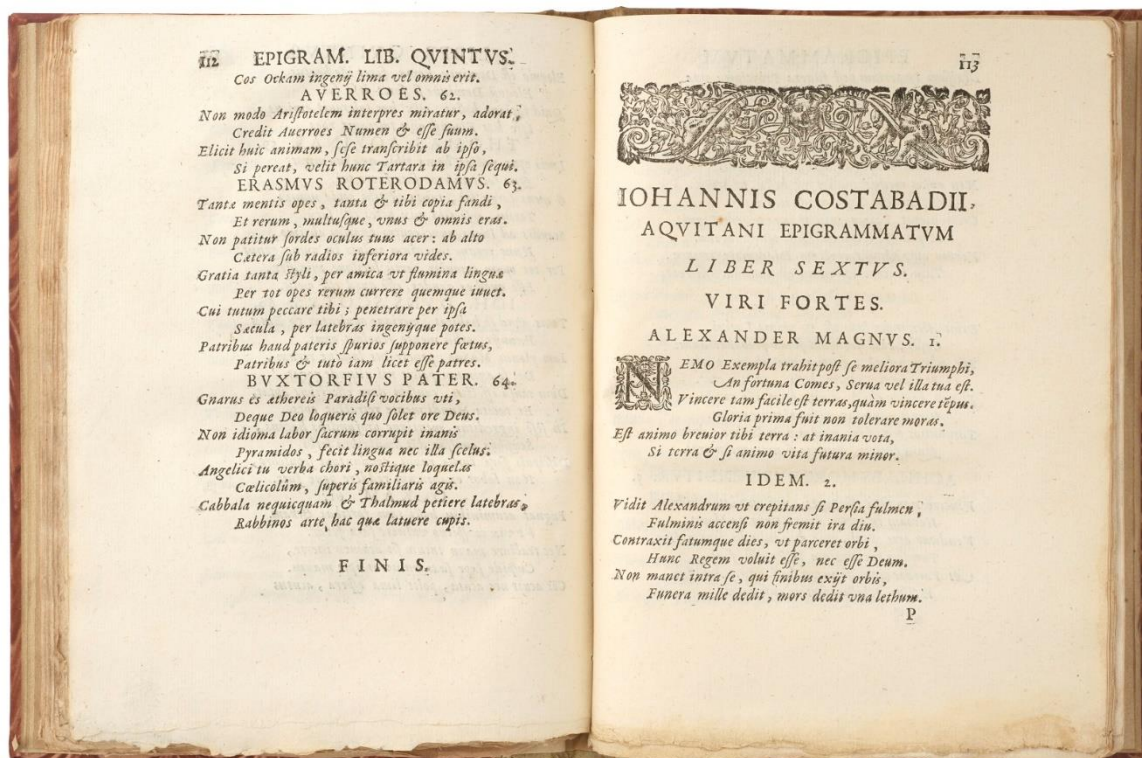
Folio, pp. [24], 1038, [2 blank], [80, index]; title in red and black with engraved vignette, text in French and Latin, initials, head- and tail-pieces, some errors in pagination; some loss to blank upper corners of first three leaves (neatly repaired), short closed tear to fore-edge of Oo1, small loss to blank corner of Sss4 and Hhhh4, some cockling; overall very good in contemporary calf; rebaked and recorned, covers somewhat worn; armorial bookplate and label of Newbattle Abbey Library to front endpapers; ‘Marq of Lothiane’ inscribed to verso of half-title. **£1500**

First edition (also known with the imprint of Pierre Bosc) of this monumental work on the history of Languedoc by the Toulouse-born historian, magistrate and jurist Catel (1560-1626), important for its content on the troubadours. According to Vincenti, Catel was ‘il primo autore di un’opera puramente storica che dedichi una certa attenzione ai trovatori’ (*Bibliografia antica dei trovatori* p. xliii), including Bertran de Born and Folquet de Marseille.



9. **COSTABADIUS, Johannes.** *Iohannis Costabadii, Aquitani epigrammatum libri octo. Saumur, Isaac Desbordes, 1655.*

4to, pp. [4], 159, [1 blank]; woodcut initials and head-pieces; loss to blank upper outer corner of A1 (neatly repaired), marginal tear to G3 (repaired to verso); a very good uncut copy in recent red paste paper boards, paper labels to spine and upper cover. **£450**



Rare first and only edition of this delightful collection of 441 neo-Latin epigrams on religious and secular themes by Costabadius, cleric and poet of Tonneins in south-western France, published in the Huguenot stronghold of Saumur.

Divided into eight books, the verses encompass: stories from the Old and New Testaments, such as Noah's ark, Jacob's ladder, Samson, David and Goliath, Judith and Holofernes, the temptation of Christ, the changing of water into wine, and the kiss of Judas; various prayers, including two addressed to Louis XIV and Queen Christina of Sweden, and meditations on plague, death, and restored health; epigrams devoted to 'viri docti' (ancient authors, Church fathers, medieval philosophers, Erasmus) and 'viri fortes' (e.g. Alexander the Great and Henry IV); verses on various towns and rivers; and miscellanea on subjects as diverse as pygmies, crocodile tears, and the chameleon.

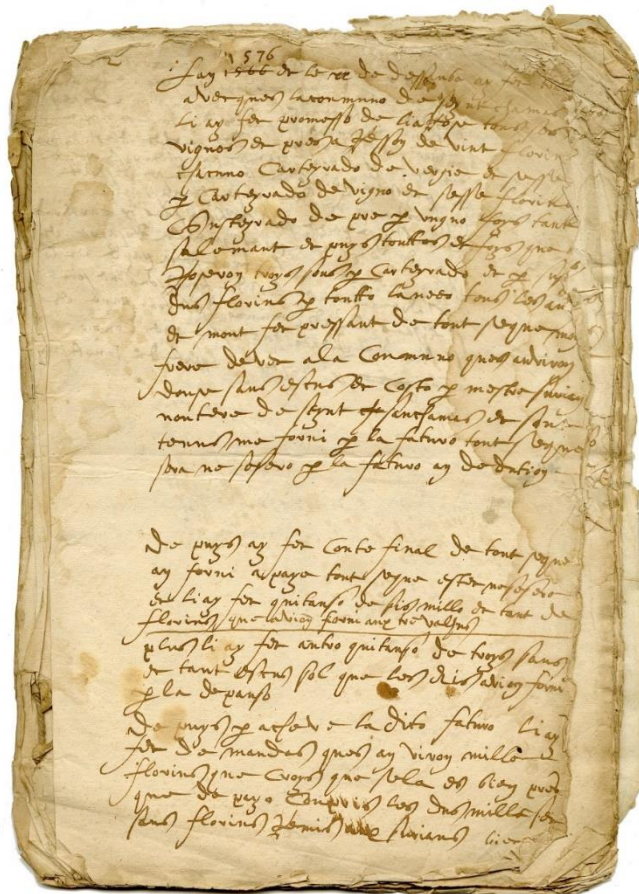
Library Hub finds one copy only, at Oxford; OCLC records no copies in the US.

10. **CRAPONNE, Frédéric and Adam de.** 'Liure de feu Monsr Phederic de Crappone sur diuers affaires siens et de feu noble Adam de Crappone son frère'. *South-eastern France, 1576-1591.*

Manuscript on paper, in Provençal, folio (35 x 25 cm), ff. [21] + 1 loose leaf inserted (leaves numbered 2-6, 8-12, 14-23, 26, 28); neatly written in a single hand in brown ink; small areas of loss

to a few leaves (affecting text), some tears, creases and damp stains; stitched with 2 vellum cords; old bookseller's description pasted to final page. **£1500**

An interesting record, in Provençal, of the financial affairs of the brothers Frédéric (b. 1523) and Adam de Craponne (1526-1576), the latter being famous in the region as the 'Benefactor of Provence' for his feats of engineering.



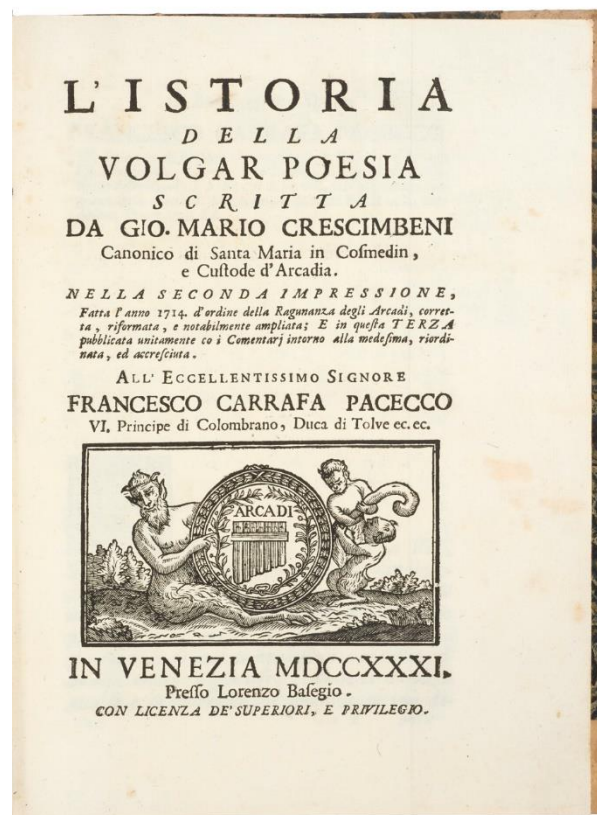
Adam was one of the foremost engineers of his generation, his improvements to the fortifications of Metz allowing the city to resist the siege of 1552 by Charles V's troops. In Provence he is best known for the canal that bears his name, running from La Roque-d'Anthéron to Lamanon. Constructed between 1554 and 1559, the canal de Craponne brought water from the river Durance to the fountains of Salon-de-Provence – from whence Adam hailed – and to irrigate the arid lands of the Crau. Adam funded the works himself, with the help of friends including Nostradamus. Adam died at Nantes in December 1576 while working on the city's fortifications for Henri III – allegedly of poisoning.

This set of accounts covering the period between December 1576 and January 1591 shows how Frédéric de Craponne continued his brother Adam's business affairs following the latter's death. The records of payments and receipts mostly relate to mills, but reference is also made to crops and stables. The places referred to include Istres, Lamanon, and Vaucluse. Many names are mentioned, including relatives of the Craponnes, 'Piere Pol sieur de Lamanon', and 'Phelip Segnet sieur de Valcluso'.

11. CRESCIMBENI, Giovanni Mario. *Dell'istoria della volgar poesia ... volume primo* [-sesto]. Venice, presso Lorenzo Basegio, 1730-1731.

6 vols, 4to, pp. [36], 480, with folding engraved frontispiece; [8], 564; [8], 352 (lacking the index); [8], 312; [8], 365, [1 blank]; [16], 460, with 2 engraved plates and several woodcut illustrations within

text; woodcut Arcadian device to titles, initials, head- and tail-pieces; very occasional light foxing, stain to inner margin vol. 5 pp. 210-211; very good in contemporary half vellum over marbled boards, spines gilt with contrasting lettering- and numbering-pieces, edges sprinkled red; a few wormholes to spines, joints and hinges; a handsome set. **£975**



The first complete edition (being the third edition of the *Istoria della volgar poesia* and the second of the *Comentari ... intorno alla sua istoria*) of this monumental work on the history of Italian poetry by the critic and poet Crescimbeni (1663-1728), co-founder of the celebrated Academy of Arcadians, for which he acted as secretary from its foundation in 1690 to his death 38 years later.

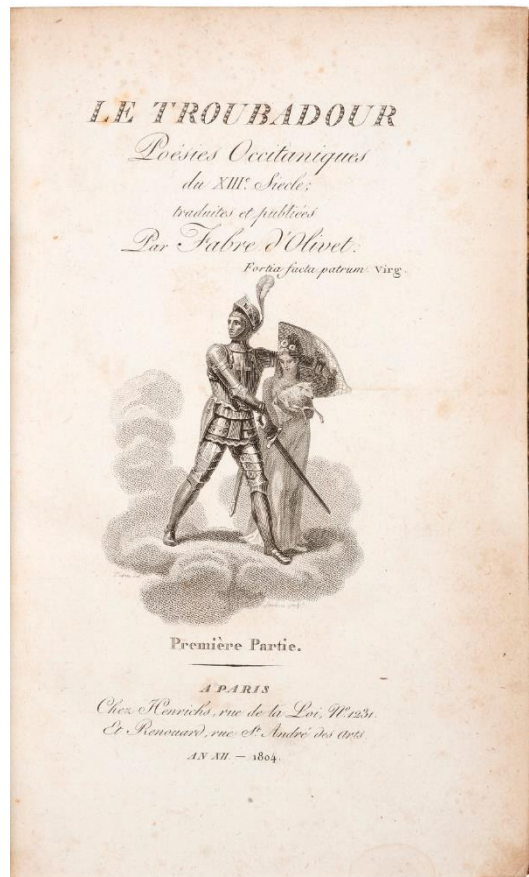
Vol. 2 pp. 1-221 prints Jean de Nostredame's 'Le vite de' più celebri poeti provenzali', with additional commentary by Crescimbeni, and pp. 225-250 gives a selection of Occitan verse by seven troubadours, as well as 'Canzone in tre lingue' by Dante Alighieri.

Vol. 6 contains Crescimbeni's 'La bellezza della volgar poesia', as well as much interesting material on the Academy of Arcadians: 'Imprese delle colonie, e delle rappresentanze Arcadiche', illustrated with woodcuts; 'Breve notizia dello stato antico e moderno dell' adunanza degli Arcadi'; and 'Descrizione del nuovo teatro degli Arcadi', with the theatre depicted in a handsome engraved plate.

12. FABRE D'OLIVET, Antoine. *Le troubadour, poésies occitaniques du XIIIe siecle; traduites et publiées ... Première [- seconde] partie. Paris, Henrichs, an XI 1803 (engraved titles dated an XII 1804).*

2 vols, 8vo, pp. [4], xi, [1 blank], lxviii, 222, [2]; [4], 292, [4]; added engraved title-pages; small chips to half-titles, some loss to blank fore-edge of vol. 2 pp. 229-230, a few small tears, a little light foxing; very good in contemporary half sheep over marbled boards, lettering- and numbering-pieces to spines; somewhat rubbed but a nice set. **£850**

First edition of this important literary forgery by the writer, composer and theosophist Fabre d'Olivet (1767-1825), who made a fundamental contribution to Occitan literary culture. In the spirit of James Macpherson's poems of Ossian, *Le troubadour* is an anthology of verse in French and Occitan written by Fabre d'Olivet but presented as coming from a manuscript he had discovered in Montpellier in the possession of one Rescondut (meaning 'hidden'). The forgery was exposed by Raynouard in 1824, who identified the Occitan as modern rather than that of the troubadours of the 13th century, and the work was familiar to Walter Scott and Robert Browning.



The 'Dissertation sur la langue occitanique et sur les ouvrages des troubadours' (vol. 1 pp. xxvii-lxviii), the 'Vocabulaire des mots occitaniques les plus éloignés du Français' (vol. 2 pp. 267-290), and some other passages are regarded as important contributions to the critical history of Occitan verse.

Bibliotheca fictiva 1301.

13. GALHARD, Auger. *Poésies Languedociennes et Françaises d'Auger Gaillard dit lou Roudié de Rabastens. Publiées par M. Gustave de Clausade. Albi, S. Rodière, 1843.*

8vo, pp. [6], xliii, [3], 326, [2], with frontispiece portrait; engraved tail-pieces; a very good, uncut and partly unopened copy in original printed wrappers; slight wear at spine ends, a few light creases; in glassine. **£75**

The collected French and Occitan poems of Auger Galhard (1540-1593), prefaced with a short biography, a bibliography of his works, and a chapter on the orthography and pronunciation of the 'dialecte Albigeois'. A native of Rabastens, Galhard's career took him from wheelwright to Huguenot soldier to rebec player to poet under the patronage of Catherine de Bourbon, sister of Henry IV.



14. **GODOLIN, Pierre.** *Las obros de Pierre Goudelin, augmentados de forço péssos, é le dictionari sus la lengo moundino. Ount es mes per aiustie sa bido, remarquos de l'antiquitat de la lengo de Toulouso, le trinfle del moundi, é soun ombro. Toulouse, Jan Pech, 1678.*

12mo, pp. [72], 184 [i.e. 284], 67-68, [106], with added engraved title and frontispiece portrait of Godelin; woodcut head- and tail-pieces and initials; frontispiece and engraved title shaved at fore-edge, occasional small marks and stains; overall very good in contemporary sheep; somewhat worn; ownership inscriptions to endpapers: 'A Toulouze ce dixhuitieme feurier 1695 ... A Monsieur de Bernadet licentié en droit ex libris Joannis'; 'Ce livre ma été donné etant à la foire de septembre de francfort en 1715 par Monsieur Lacrois Descazals'. **£350**

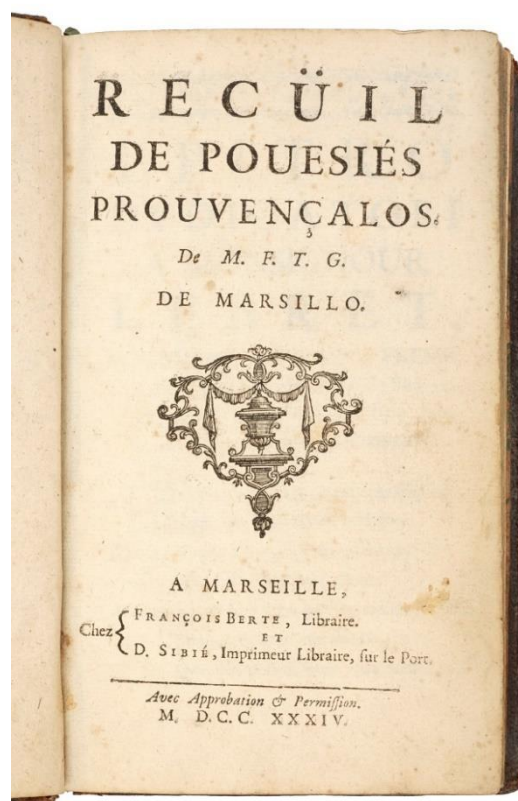
Second edition (first 1647-48) of the collected works of the great Toulouse poet Pierre Godolin (1580-1649), an ardent exponent and highly inventive writer of the Occitan language. Included here are stanzas in honour of Henri IV 'which raised Occitan to the highest of literary registers' (Thomas), and his masterpiece the 'Ramelet Mondin' (Toulousain Bouquet), a veritable homage to his native tongue, comprising sonnets, *chants royaux*, drinking songs, odes, carnivalesque prologues, pastoral dialogues, love songs, and Christmas carols. The *Obros* ends with a substantial dictionary – stretching to over 100 pages – of the Toulouse dialect, 'contenant principalement les mots les plus éloignés du François, avec leur explication'. Godolin's works influenced both Molière and Cyrano de Bergerac.

FEATURING FABLES

15. **GROS, François-Toussaint.** *Recüil de pouesiés Prouvençalos. De M. F. T. G. de Marsillo. Marseille, François Berte and D. Sibié, 1734.*

8vo, pp. 178, [6]; title vignette, head- and tail-pieces; wormhole/track to upper blank margins of pp. 51-90, short closed tear to fore-edge of pp. 143-144, occasional light marks; overall very good in

contemporary speckled sheep, spine gilt in compartments, marbled endpapers; some wear to extremities and a few abrasions to covers. £475



First edition of this collection of Provençal poetry by the Marseille-born poet Gros (1698-1748), including a dialogue between a burgher and a peasant, verses on the influenza outbreak of 1730, poems on love, a drinking song, various logogriphs, odes, epigrams, songs, and lines addressed to the Marquise de Simiane, granddaughter of Madame de Sévigné.

The collection ends with six fables featuring animals and plants: L'esquiroou & la castaigno (the squirrel and the chestnut); Lei ratos & lou flascou (the mice and the flask); Lou poulas esplumassa (the plucked chicken); Lei poulets & la sansuë (The chickens and the leech); Lou papagai & lou gat (the parrot and the cat); and Lou jaucemin, lou boui & lou tillo (the jasmine, the box and the linden).

16. JASMIN, Jacques (i.e. Jacques BOÉ). *Las papilhôtos. Édition populaire en deux volumes. Les poèmes et les odes [vol. 2: Les satires et les épîtres].* Préface de l'édition, essai d'orthographe Gasconne d'après les langues Romane et d'Oc, et collation de la traduction littéraire par Boyer d'Agen. *Paris, Garnier frères, [1898].*

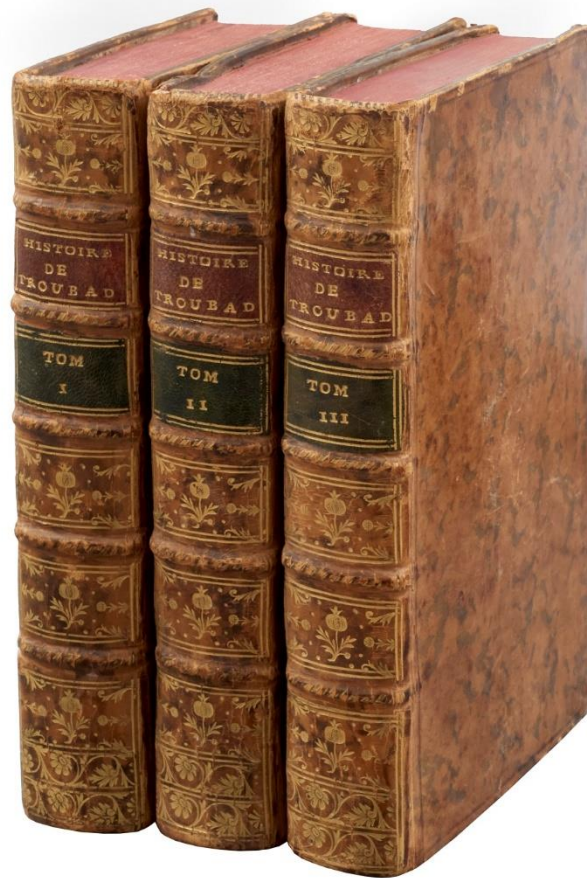
2 vols, 8vo, pp. xli, [42]-351, [3], with frontispiece portrait of the author; lxxiv, [43]-359, [1], with 2 plates; Provençal and French on facing pages; title vignettes; slightly browned; very good, uncut, in contemporary quarter blue morocco over marbled boards, spines lettered and numbered in gilt, top edges gilt, marbled endpapers; very slight wear to extremities; signature of 'Henri Lespinas' to half-titles; a nice set. £100

'Popular edition' of this collection of poems, odes, satires and epistles by the hairdresser, philanthropist and sentimental poet Jacques Jasmin (1798-1864), the most famous forerunner of Frédéric Mistral and the Félibrige movement, who was fêted by royalty and France's literary giants, and whose public readings were attended by thousands throughout Occitania. He was the most

famous of the ‘worker-poets’ writing in Occitan. Included here are his most notable works, including ‘L’Abuglo de Castèl-Culhè’.

17. LA CURNE DE SAINTE-PALAYE, Jean Baptiste de, and Claude-François-Xavier MILLOT. *Histoire littéraire des troubadours, contenant leurs vies, les extraits de leurs pièces, et plusieurs particularités sur les mœurs, les usages, et l’histoire du douzième et du treizième siècles. Tome premier [- troisième]. Paris, Durand neveu, 1774.*

3 vols, 12mo, pp. lxxxviii, 472; viii, 504; viii, 456; head- and tail-pieces; repair to margin of vol. 1 b2, a very few light marks; very good in contemporary mottled calf, spines richly gilt in compartments with contrasting lettering- and numbering-pieces, red edges, marbled endpapers; a little wear to extremities; armorial bookplate of Alexandre-Marie-François de Paul de Dompierre d’Hornoy to pastedowns; a handsome set. **£300**



First edition of this impressive literary history of the troubadours by the historian, philologist and lexicographer La Curne de Sainte-Palaye (1697-1781), with an interesting introduction by Millot. The three volumes provide short biographies of no fewer than 141 troubadours, with short translated extracts from their works.

18. LA CURNE DE SAINTE-PALAYE, Jean Baptiste de; Susannah DOBSON, *translator*.

The literary history of the troubadours. Containing their lives, extracts from their works, and many particulars relative to the customs, morals, and history of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Collected and abridged from the French ... by the author of the Life of Petrarch. *London, T. Cadell, 1779.*

8vo, pp. xxiv, 495, [1 blank]; hinge split following title, a very little light foxing; very good in recent quarter calf over marbled boards, paper spine label; engraved portrait of Petrarch pasted to leaf facing title. **£150**

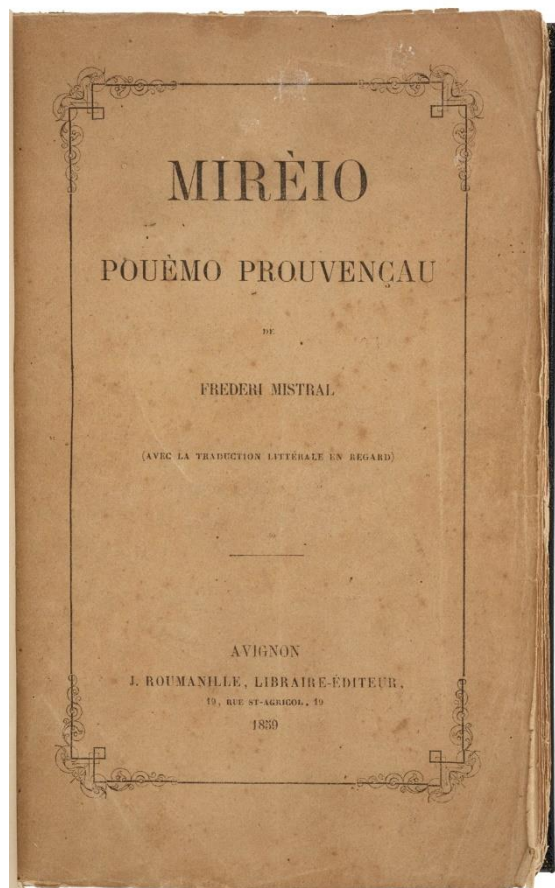
First edition in English – based on the three-volume French original of 1774 – by the translator Susannah Dobson (d. 1795), who was described by Samuel Johnson as ‘the directress of rational conversation’.

ESTC T80464.

MISTRAL’S MASTERPIECE

19. MISTRAL, Frédéric. *Mirèio*. Pouèmo Prouvençau de Frederi Mistral (avec la traduction littérale en regard). *Avignon, J. Roumanille (typ. de Fr. Seguin aîné), 1859.*

8vo, pp. [4], 515, [1]; Provençal and French on facing pages; a little light foxing and creasing; very good uncut copy in recent dark blue morocco by Aquarius of London, spine in compartments lettered in gilt, gilt board edges and turn-ins; original light brown printed wrappers bound in, somewhat creased and with a few short closed tears. **£800**



First edition, first printing (without the dedication to Lamartine and the note on pronunciation) of this masterpiece by Mistral (1830-1914), the great poet and lexicographer who led the 19th-century revival of Occitan language and literature, and who received the 1904 Nobel Prize in Literature. It was published by Mistral’s mentor and co-founder of the Félibrige, Joseph Roumanille.

‘*Mirèio*, which is set in the poet’s own time and district, is the story of a rich farmer’s daughter whose love for a poor basket maker’s son is thwarted by her parents and ends with her death in the Church of Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer. Into this poem Mistral poured his love for the countryside where he was born. *Mirèio* skillfully combines narration, dialogue, description, and lyricism and is notable for the springy, musical quality of its highly individual stanzaic form’ (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*). The work was an instant success, ‘establishing Mistral not only as the undisputed leader of the Provençal revival, but as an unexpected answer to France’s ongoing search for an epic poet to rival Homer, Virgil and Dante’ (Thomas, p. 478).

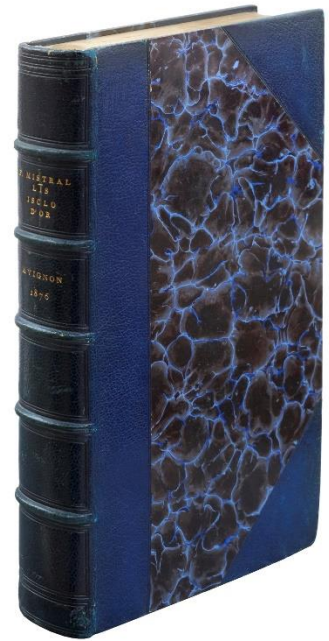
20. **MISTRAL, Frédéric.** *Mirèio. Pouèmo Prouvençau ... Mireille. Poème Provençal ... avec la traduction littérale en regard. Paris, Bibliothèque-Charpentier, 1905.*

8vo, pp. [8], 511, [1 blank]; Provençal and French on facing pages; slightly browned, a few short tears to edges; very good in contemporary quarter dark green morocco over marbled boards, spine in compartments lettered in gilt, top edge gilt, marbled endpapers, original printed wrappers bound in; extremities slightly rubbed; inscription to half-title 'E.H. Nichols Avignon 13 juin 1906'. **£75**

21. **MISTRAL, Frédéric.** *Lis isclo d'or. Recuei de pouesio diverso em'uno prefaci biougrafico de l'autour escricho pèr éu-meme. (Traduction française en regard). Avignon, J. Roumanille (typ. F. Seguin aîné), 1876.*

8vo, pp. [4], xxxi, [1 blank], 499, [1 blank]; Provençal and French on facing pages; edges slightly browned; a very good uncut copy in contemporary half blue morocco over marbled boards, spine in compartments lettered in gilt, top edge gilt, marbled endpapers; extremities very slightly rubbed; bookplate of Eugene Paillet (1829-1901), one of the great French bibliophiles of the 19th-century. **£250**

First edition of this collection of lyric poems, including some of Mistral's most beautiful verse, with an autobiographical preface.



22. **MISTRAL, Frédéric.** *Le poème du Rhône en XII chants. Texte Provençal et traduction Française. Paris, Alphonse Lemerre, 1897.*

8vo, pp. [4], 345, [7]; Provençal and French on facing pages; head- and tail-pieces; very good uncut copy in contemporary half calf over marbled boards, spine lettered in gilt, top edge gilt, marbled endpapers, original yellow printed wrappers bound in; some wear to joints and extremities. **£100**

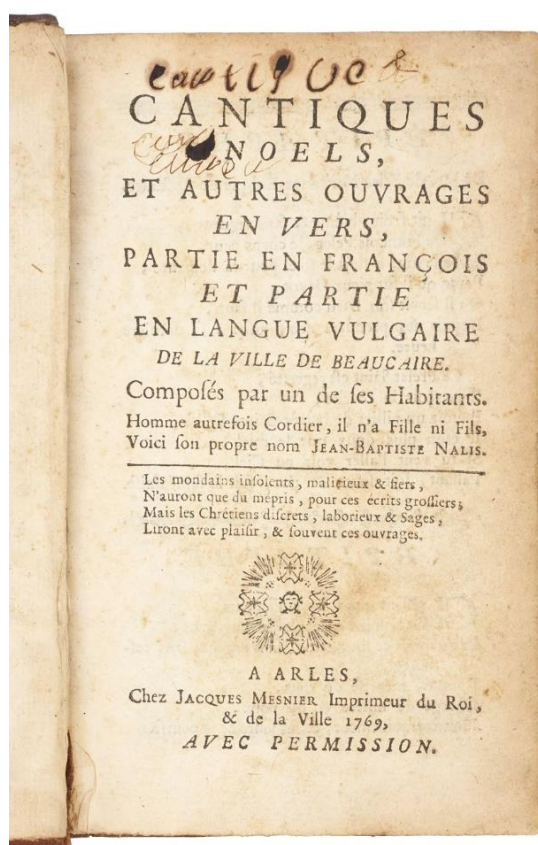
First edition of Mistral's last long poem. 'Lou Pouèmo dóu Rose tells of a voyage on the Rhône River from Lyon to Beaucaire by the barge 'Lou Caburle', which is boarded first by a romantic young prince of Holland and later by the daughter of a poor ferryman. The romance between them is cut short by disaster when the first steamboat to sail on the Rhône accidentally sinks 'Lou Caburle'. Though the crew swims ashore, the lovers are drowned. Although less musical and more dense in style than *Mirèio*, this epic is as full of life and colour' (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*).

23. **NALIS, Jean-Baptiste.** Cantiques noels, et autres ouvrages en vers, partie en François et partie en langue vulgaire de la ville de Beaucaire. Composés par un de ses habitants. Homme autrefois cordier, il n'a fille ni fils, voici son propre nom Jean-Baptiste Nalis. *Arles, Jacques Mesnier, 1769.*

[bound with:]

Idem. Voici d'instructions simples & catholiques, toutes en vers patois, & toutes pathétiques ... *Arles, Jacques Mesnier, 1770.*

2 works in 1 vol., 8vo, pp. [9], iv-viii, 271, [1 blank]; 56; initials, head- and tail-pieces; some words in juvenile hand to title, occasional light marks and stains, a little browned; overall very good in contemporary mottled sheep, spine in compartments with gilt lettering to one; some rubbing to extremities, wanting front free endpaper. **£1250**



Scarce second edition (first 1766, also rare) of this collection of devotional and Christmas canticles, letters and poems addressed to the author's friends, riddles, and verses on Christian instruction, in French and in the Occitan dialect of the town of Beaucaire.

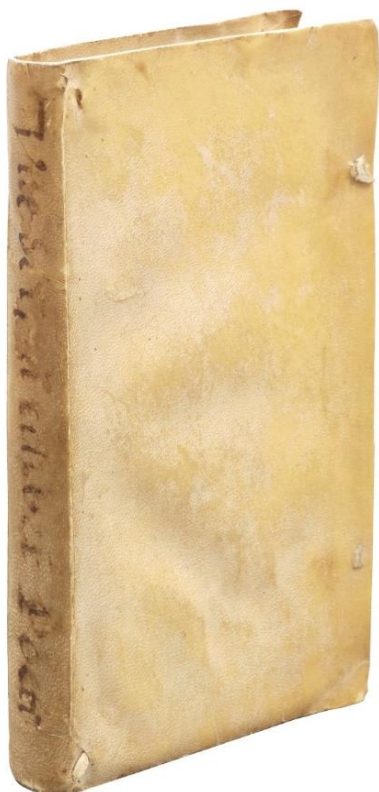
The verses include reprimands addressed to heavy sleepers, dancers, the idle, the debauched, and prattlers. The various Christmas songs include a dialogue between 'l'ange' and 'leis pastres'. Each piece has an indication of the tune to which it should be sung.

OCLC shows only 2 copies in North America, at the Thomas Fisher Library and NYPL (first part only). Not on Library Hub.

(SEMI-FICTIONAL) WHO'S WHO OF TROUBADOURS

24. **NOSTREDAME, Jean de.** Le vite delli piu celebri et antichi primi poeti provenzali che fiorirno nel tempo delli Ré di Napoli, et Conti di Prouenza ... Raccolte dall'opere de diuersi eccellenti scrittori ... hora da Gio: Giudici in Italiana tradotte, e date in luce ... *Lyon, Alessandro Marsili, 1575.*

8vo, pp. 254, [2 blank], [16, table of contents]; engraved initials, head- and tail-pieces; some light foxing, a little damp staining to corners; very good in contemporary limp vellum, title inked to spine; rear hinge partly split. **£975**



First Italian edition, translated from the first French edition of the same year, comprising brief biographies of 76 poets, with occasional extracts from their works, covering the golden age of the troubadours, including some to whom Dante dedicated long sections of the *Divine Comedy*.

‘Jean de Nostredame (1507?-1576/7), younger brother of the famous astrologer Michel de Nostredame (Nostradamus), is a controversial founding figure of Provençal literary history and troubadour studies. Born in Saint-Rémy, near Avignon, he was a procurator of the Parliament of Provence, in Aix. His major work is the semi-fictional *Vies des plus celebres et anciens poetes provençaux* ... which had a lasting and profound influence on troubadour research and romantic literature until many of its claims were finally debunked by Camille Chabaneau in the late nineteenth century. Although Nostredame had access to the thirteenth- and fourteenth-century *chansonniers*, Provençal pride compelled him to embellish these (already questionable) biographies with new inventions designed to exaggerate the importance of his native region in troubadour history’ (Thomas p. 320).

Adams N348.

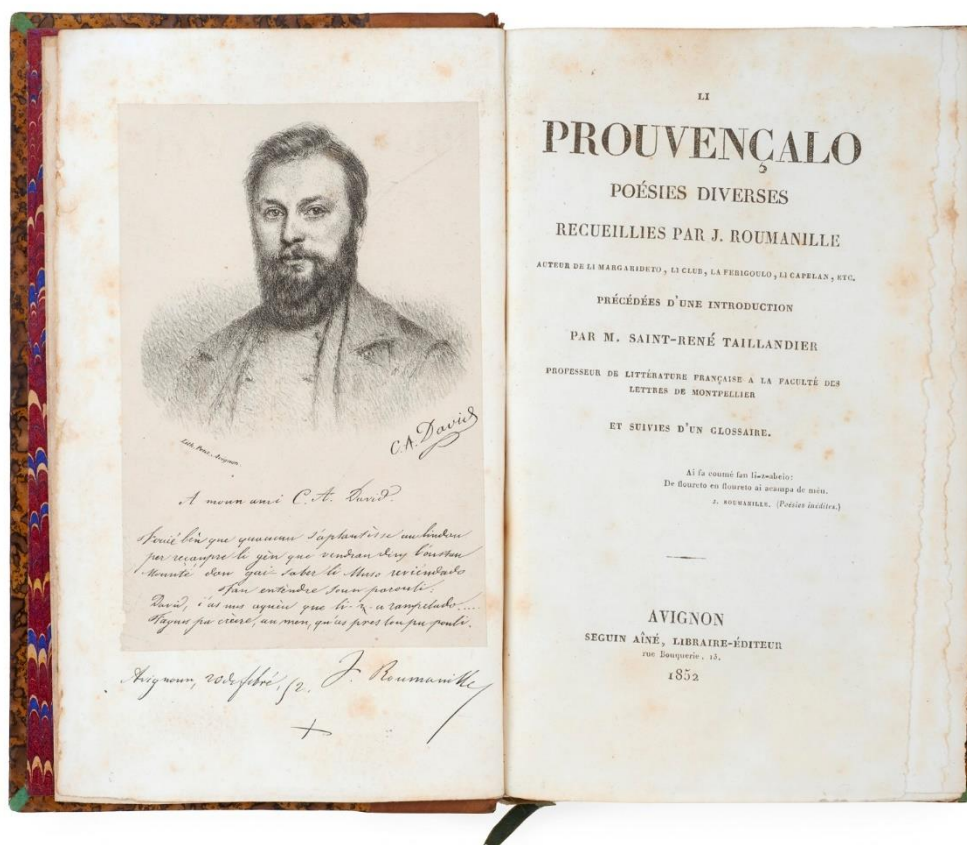
25. **RAYNOUARD, François-Just-Marie.** Choix des poésies originales des troubadours ... Tome premier [- sixième] ... *Paris, Firmin Didot, 1816-1821.*

6 vols, pp. xxxii, 447, [1 blank]; [4], clxiv (quire c in duplicate, quire d wanting), 319, [1 blank], with 4 folding plates of facsimiles of manuscripts; [4], 475, [1 blank]; [4], 476; [2], viii, 476; [4], lxviii, 412; engraved tail-pieces; some foxing and browning throughout; good in contemporary quarter green morocco over green marbled boards, spines lettered and numbered in gilt, marbled endpapers; extremities somewhat worn, labels removed from foot of spines; three different ownership ink stamps to titles (including that of François Guizot). **£975**

First edition of the chief work of the philologist and dramatist Raynouard (1761-1836), this copy formerly in the library of the eminent statesman François Guizot (1787-1874), prime minister of France under Louis Philippe.

Vol. I contains a philological study of the 'langue romane'; vol. II an account of troubadour poetry, genres, versification etc.; vol. III 'pièces amoureuses' drawn from sixty troubadours, dating from 1090 to 1260; vol. IV tensons, verses on the crusades, various satirical pieces ('sirventes'), and moral and religious poems; vol. V biographies of the troubadours and poetical fragments; and vol. VI a comparative grammar of old Occitan and other European languages.

PRESENTED BY THE AUTHOR



26. **ROUMANILLE, Joseph, editor.** Li Prouvençalo poésies diverses recueillies par J. Roumanille ... précédées d'une introduction par M. Saint-René Taillandier ... et suivies d'un glossaire. Avignon, Seguin ainé, 1852.

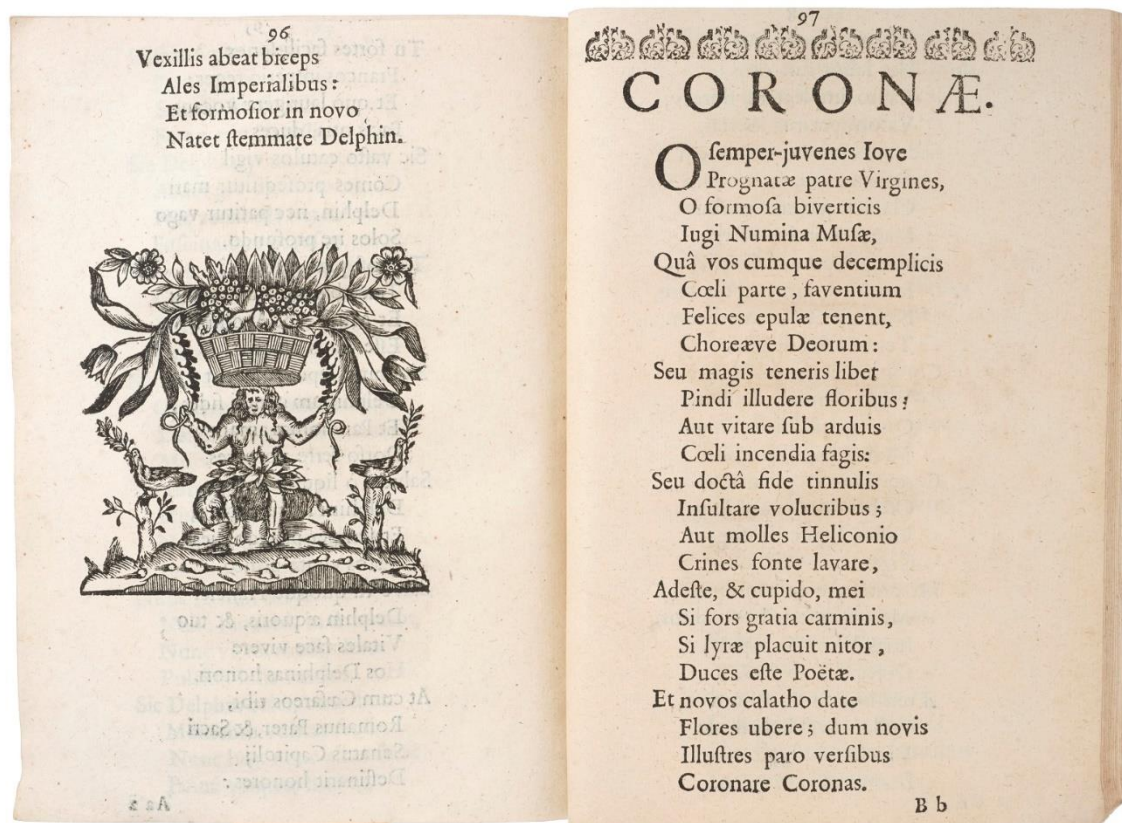
8vo, pp. xlv, [3], 437, [1 blank]; a little light foxing; very good in contemporary quarter calf over marbled boards, spine in compartments with red morocco lettering-piece, top edge marbled, marbled endpapers; lithographed portrait of Roumanille by C.A. David pasted to front free endpaper, with manuscript inscription in Provençal to David from Roumanville (dated from Avignon 20 Feb. 1852) below. **£275**

First edition of this important collection of Provençal poetry edited by Joseph Roumanille (1818-1891), founding father of the Félibrige movement, including poems by Théodore Aubanel and Frédéric Mistral, as well as by Roumanille himself. Just two years after the publication of this volume, Roumanille and six other Provençal poets founded the Félibrige, a literary and cultural association intended to defend and promote the Provençal language and its literature.

This copy is enhanced with a manuscript dedication – comprising six lines of verse in Provençal – addressed by Roumanille to 'mon ami C.A. David' i.e. the Avignon artist Charles David (1798-1869), who painted Roumanille's portrait.

27. **THERON, Vital.** Reliquiae poeticae R. P. Vitalis Theroni, Soc. Iesu presbyteri, ad eminentissimum cardinalem Mazarinum ... *Toulouse, Jean Boude, 1645.*

4to, pp. [12], 129, [1 blank]; text in Latin and French; ornate woodcut initials, head- and tail-pieces; some loss at foot of title touching date, shaved close to text; overall very good; disbound. **£500**



Rare first Boude edition of the collected poems of Vital Theron (1572-1657), assembled by his nephew Bernard Theron (a senator of Toulouse) and dedicated to Cardinal Mazarin, several of the pieces addressed to Louis XIII and Cardinal Richelieu. Born at Limoux, Theron joined the Jesuits in 1587, teaching rhetoric, philosophy and moral theology, and later served as rector of Montauban. The final poem is a French translation of Theron's 'Delphines', executed 'par le commandement du roy'.

Jean Boude (1591-1689) is described here on the title as 'Regis, & Comitiorum Linguae Occitanae Typographus.'

OCLC shows only the imperfect BL copy in the UK and no copies in the US.

REFERENCE WORKS

AKEHURST, F.R.P. and Judith M. DAVIS. A handbook of the Troubadours. *Berkeley, University of California Press, 1995.* pp. 502. Paperback. **£15**

PADEN, William D. An introduction to Old Occitan. *New York, Modern Language Association of America, 1998.* pp. xxvi, 610 + 1 CD in rear pocket. Hardback. Slight bump to lower board. **£30**

PILLET, Alfred, and Henry CARSTENS. *Bibliographie der Troubadours*. Halle, Max Niemeyer Verlag, 1933. pp. xliv, 518. Hardback. Hinges split. £35

TAYLOR, Robert A. *Bibliographical guide to the study of the Troubadours and Old Occitan literature*. Kalamazoo, Western Michigan University, 2015. pp. xxi, 565. Hardback. Very slight bump at foot of spine. £50

TAYLOR, Robert A. *La littérature Occitane du Moyen Age. Bibliographie selective et critique*. Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1977. pp. xv, 166. Hardback. £15

VINCENTI, Eleonora. *Bibliografia antica dei Trovatori*. Milan, Riccardo Ricciardi, 1963. pp. lxiii, 179, [3]. Paperback. Slightly bumped at foot of spine. £30