



Catalogue 04-2016

Robert Boyle

Exact Science, Natural Philosophy and Religion



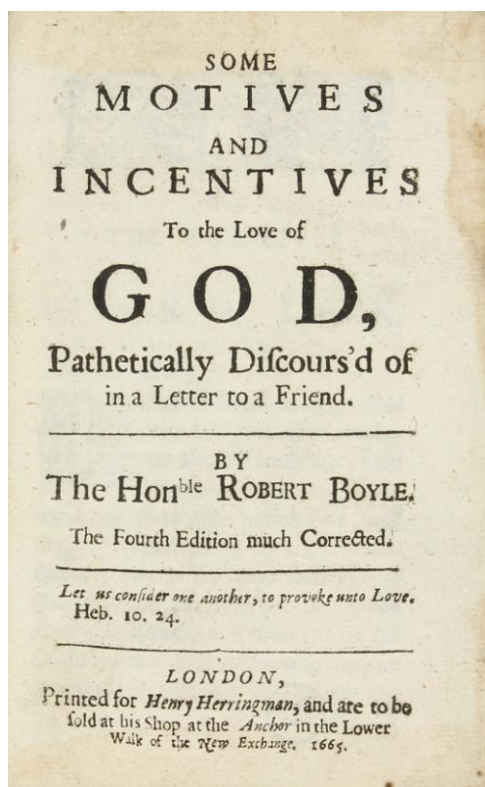
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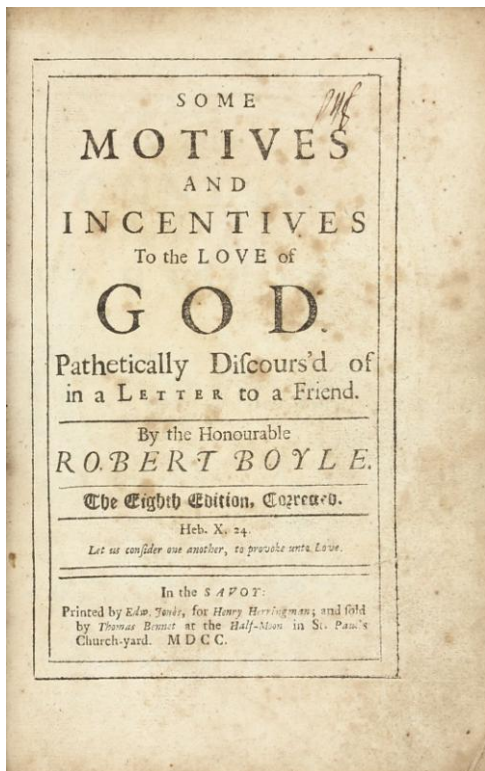
Member of ILAB and VDA

1 **BOYLE, Robert.** *Some Motive and Incentives to the Love of God, Pathetically Discours'd of in a Letter to a Friend. The Fourth Edition, much Corrected.* London: Printed for Henry Herringman, 1665. 8vo (162 x 104 mm). [18], 173 [1] pp. Signatures: A-M⁸. Contemporary calf, spine with 4 raised bands (boards, spine and extremities rubbed, upper hinge split but holding). Internally only very little browned. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso and p.51). Good copy. (#002497) € 650



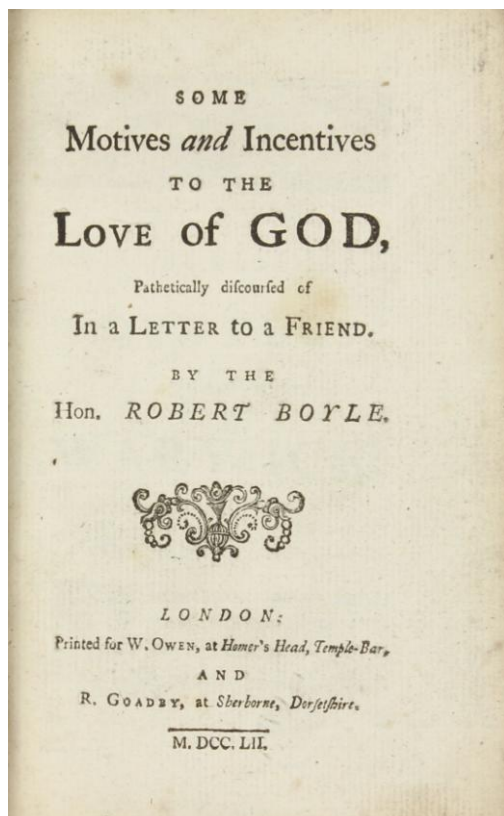
Fulton 4. Fourth Edition of Boyles first separate work. The type of this edition is entirely reset from the previous. Known under the title "Seraphick Love" from the running head used in all 17th-century English editions, it did not find a place on the title-page until the 1693 Latin edition (see Fulton, p.2). Though perhaps as little known as any of Robert Boyle's numerous writings, there is much interest attaching to this work, as well as something of a romance in his life. By 1752, the work had been carried through fifteen English editions or variants. The text was written by Boyle when he was but 22 years old and is in the form of a letter addressed to Lindamor, 'a learned youth, well-born and well-bred.' It was suggested that this imaginary character, who appears in a number of Boyle's writings, was in fact no other than Boyle himself. (Fulton, p.3).

2 **BOYLE, Robert.** *Some Motive and Incentives to the Love of God, Pathetically Discours'd of in a Letter to a Friend. The Eighth Edition, Corrected.* London: Printed by Edw Jones, for Henry Herringman, 1700. 8vo (181 x 118 mm). [16], 174 pp. Signatures: A-M8. Including frontispiece portrait of the author on A1v. Contemporary blind stamped calf (foot of spine damaged, extremities, boards and spine rubbed, corners bumped). Internally browned and spotted throughout (last page stronger), a few contemporary text markings, minor worming to lower blank margin. Provenance: Ric Booth (inscribed on front pastedown and dated 1700); The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso and p.51). Good, wide-margined copy. (#002504) € 300



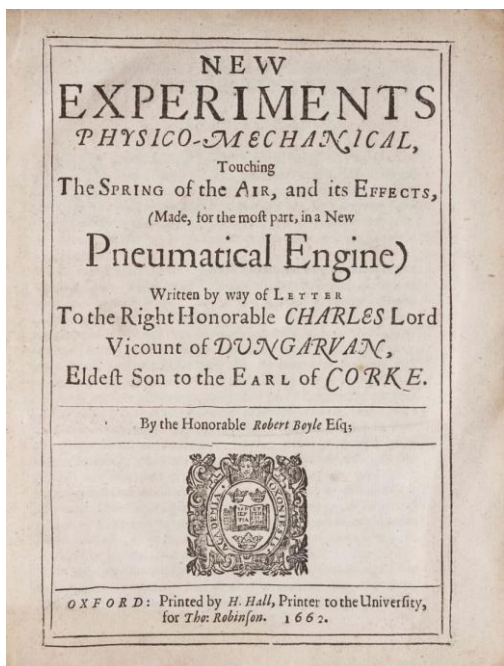
Fulton 8. Eighth Edition, very rare with the engraved frontispiece (Fulton does not mention it and speculates whether A1 is a blank). Boyles first separate work. The type of this edition is entirely reset from the previous. Known under the title "Seraphick Love" from the running head used in all 17th-century English editions, it did not find a place on the title-page until the 1693 Latin edition (see Fulton, p.2). Though perhaps as little known as any of Robert Boyle's numerous writings, there is much interest attaching to this work, as well as something of a romance in his life. By 1752, the work had been carried through fifteen English editions or variants. The text was written by Boyle when he was but 22 years old and is in the form of a letter addressed to Lindamor, 'a learned youth, well-born and well-bred.' It was suggested that this imaginary character, who appears in a number of Boyle's writings, was in fact no other than Boyle himself. (Fulton, p.3).

3 BOYLE, Robert. *Some Motive and Incentives to the Love of God, Pathetically discoursed of in a Letter to a Friend.* London: Printed for W. Owen and R. Goadby, 1752. 12mo (164 x 102 mm). [24], 168 pp. Signatures: A-H¹². Contemporary calf, boards ruled in gilt, spine with red morocco label titled in gilt (rubbing to boards and extremities). Internally only very little browned. Provenance: Eliz. Danby (inscribed and dated on first flyleaf "1768, The gift of her brother"); The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso and p.51). A fine, wide-margined copy. (#002496) € 300



Fulton 9A. Very rare (Fulton lists but four copies). This edition, published at Sherborne, was first described by Sir Geoffrey Keynes, who pointed out that 'The Boyle Family had acquired the Manor of Stalbridge, near Sherborne, in 1636, and their representatives, still valuing Robert's devotional exercise in 1752, but finding it unobtainable, may have suggested the reprinting to the local publisher and printer, Goadby.' (Fulton 9A).

4 BOYLE, Robert. *New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, Touching the Spring of the Air, and its Effects, (Made, for the Most Part, in a New Pneumatical Engine).* H. Hall, for Thomas Robinson, 1662.

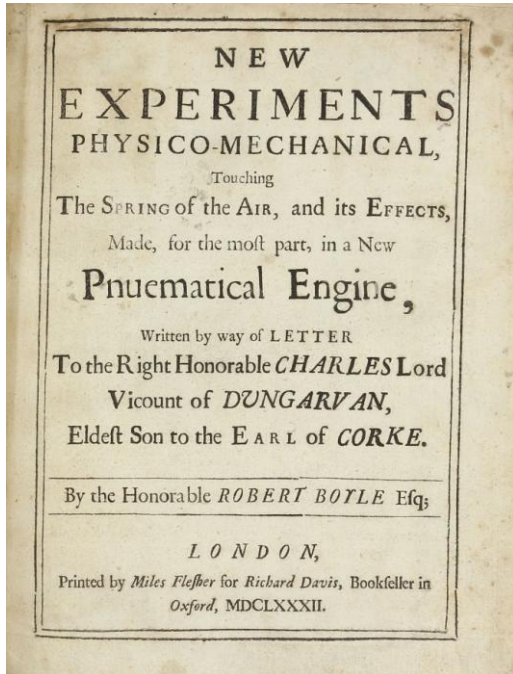


4to (195 x 153 mm). [16], 207 [1], [12], 122, [2], [8], 1-86 [2] 85-98 [2] pp., including half-title, woodcut device on title, 2 engraved plates (one folding with tear repaired), with the 3 blanks, early calf, later morocco spine label; internally only slightly browned, minor occasional spotting, few pages with marginal soiling, quires N to AA possibly supplied but identical in size, toning and paper appearance. Provenance: Pryce Davies (signature to half title). (#001670) € 9,500

Fulton 14; PMM 143; Dibner 142; Garrison & Morton 666; Norman 300; Krivatsy 1660; Wing B3999. - IMPORTANT SECOND EDITION. This edition is the first to contain the announcement of "Boyle's Law". "Boyle's experimental proof of the basis of physical property of air, namely that the volume of gas varies inversely with the pressure, constitutes one of the greatest contributions to physical science... it was further proved that air has weight, and the function of combustion and respiration in air, the conveyance of sound and the elasticity of air all explained" (PMM).

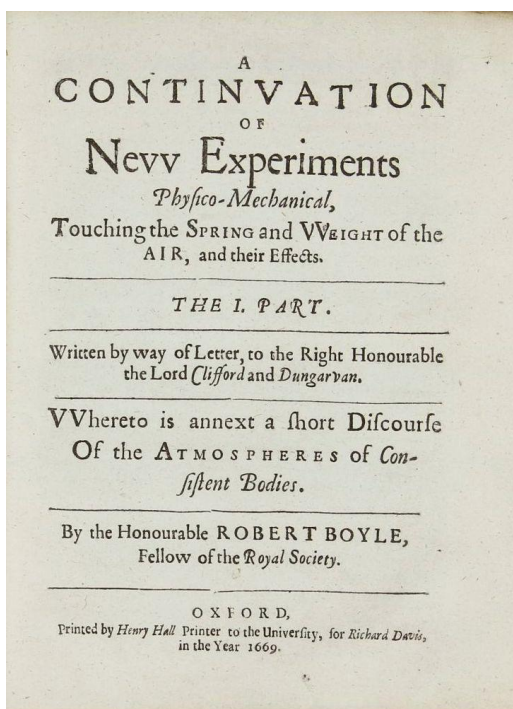
5 BOYLE, Robert. *New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, Touching the Spring and Weight of the air, and their Effects ... in a New Pnuematical [sic] Engine.* London: Miles Flescher for Richard Davis, 1682. 3 parts in one volume. 4to (196 x 165 mm). [16], 203 [1]; [12], 117 [1], [2]; [8], 102, [2] pp., half-title and 2 engraved plates (one folding) bound after title, blank 2V4, and final leaf listing the author's publications. Light browning, first gathering working loose and final 4 leaves softened and chipped at upper inner corner, first plate chipped at head. Contemporary sheep, defective.

Provenance: Thomas Harrison of Queen's College, Cambridge (probably the Secretary of the Royal Institution who was an anti-slavery campaigner, 1771-1824), bookplate to front pastedown; The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso). (#002505) € 1,800



Fulton 15; Wing B4000; (cf. PMM 143 for second ed.) - THIRD EDITION. "Boyle's *New Experiments Physico-Mechanical...* recounted experiments using a vacuum chamber or 'air pump' which he constructed with the assistance of Hooke. Rejecting the scholastic notion that nature could not tolerate a vacuum, he showed how it was perfectly possible to produce one, and this enabled him to illustrate the characteristics and functions of the air by studying the effects of its withdrawal on flame, light, and living creatures. He also argued that certain characteristics of the air could only be explained in terms of the ingenious hypothesis that it had a certain weight and 'spring'" (ODNB). This edition includes his controversial tracts against Linus and Hobbes, the former provoking an attack to which Boyle wrote a defence that contained 'Boyle's law', first published in the second edition.

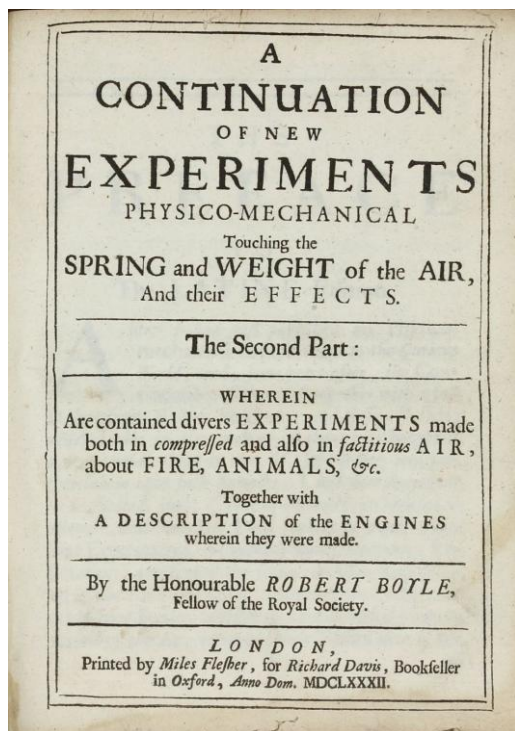
6 BOYLE, Robert. *A Continuation of New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, Touching the Spring and Weight of the air, and their Effects. The I. Part. Written by way of letter to the Right Honourable*



the Lord Clifford and Dungarvan. Whereto is annext a short Discourse Of the Atmospheres of Consistent Bodies. Oxford: Printed by Herry Hall for Richard Davis, 1669. 4to (198x156 mm). [22], 198, [12], including leaf with longitudinal title and 8 engraved plates bound at the end. Modern panelled calf, spine with 5 raised bands blindstamped in compartments and with two red morocco labels lettered in gilt. Internally only very little age toned. One plate partly shaved at lower margin due to offsetting (first four plates just touching platemarks). A fine, crisp and unmarked copy. (#002256) € 2,200

Fulton 16; Wing B 3934; NLM/Krivatsy 1662; Wellcome II, 220. RARE FIRST EDITION of the first continuation. The plates show the single barrelled air-pump devised by Boyle and Hooke. Plate V, fig. I, shows the experiment in which Boyle sucked water up with his pump to the top of the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford.

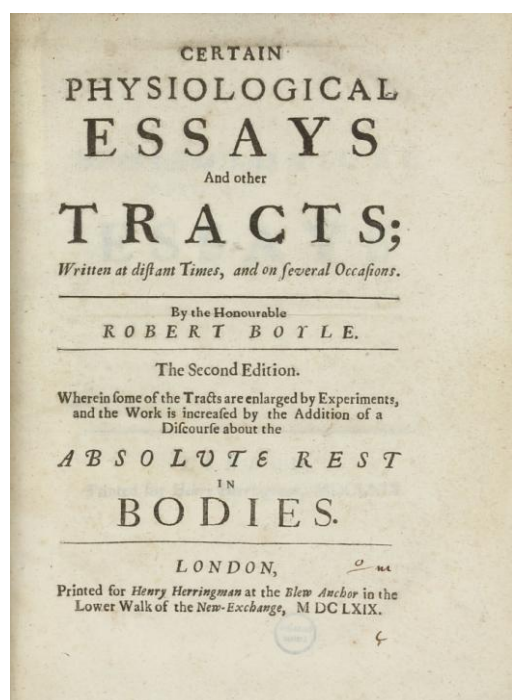
7 BOYLE, Robert. *A continuation of New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, Touching the Spring and Weight of the air, and their Effects. The I. Part. Written by way of letter to the Right Honourable the Lord Clifford and Dungarvan.* Oxford: Printed by Henry Hall ... for Richard Davis, 1669. [2], 198, [12] pp., lacking the title-leaf *1 and 7 preface leaves *2-***4, including vertical label-title at the end. Internally little browned, cancelled signature on half-title, a few ink marginalia, faint dampstaining to



a few leaves. [Bound with:] *A Continuation of New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, Touching the Spring and Weight of the air, and their Effects. The Second part...* London: Miles Flesher for Richard Davis, 1682. [16], 198, [10] pp., 5 folding engraved plates. Signatures: A⁴ a⁴ B-Z⁴ Aa-Cc⁴ b² Dd². Leaves b1-b2 misbound after Cc4. Internally little browned, faint dampstaining to a few leaves, errata corrected in text. 4to (191 x 149 mm). Two works bound in one volume. Contemporary half calf over marbled boards, hinges repaired. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso and p.51 of first work). (#002499) € 700

I. Fulton 16, Wing B3934. II. Fulton 18, Wing B3935. FIRST EDITION OF THIS FIRST CONTINUATION and FIRST EDITION OF THE SECOND CONTINUATION in English. This book contains the famous image illustrating Boyle's experiment drawing water with his pump up to the top of the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford. Boyle's rather interesting preface recounts some of the trials and tribulations of both scientific research and the publishing process.

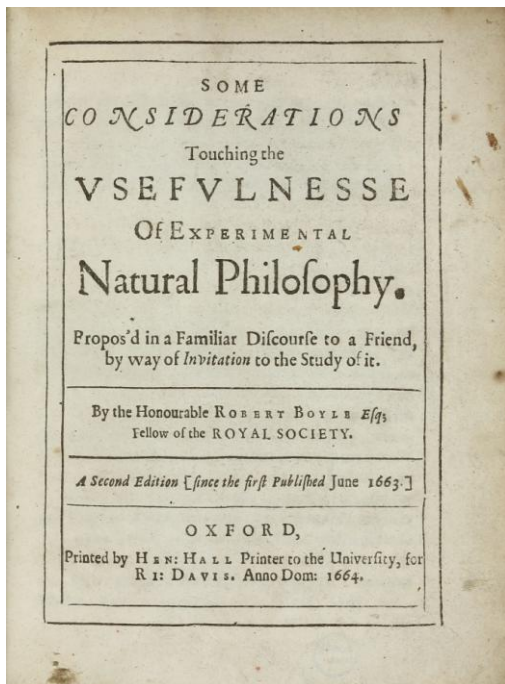
8 BOYLE, Robert. *Certain Physiological Essays, Written at Distant Times, and On Several Occasions.* London: Henry Herringman, 1669. 4to (215 x158 mm). [8] 1-292, [4] 1-30 [2] pp., including half-title bound after title, two advertisement leaves, and final blank. Separate title-page and pagination for "Of Absolute Rest of Bodies," dated 1669. Early cat's paw calf, spine with 4 raised bands, gilt in compartments and with gilt morocco lettering piece, boards ruled and decorated in gilt (joint ends split, boards bowed outward, extremities rubbed), red-sprinkled edges. Internally crisp



and unmarked with very little browning or occasional foxing, margins a bit dust soiled in places. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso); William Charles de Meuron, Earl Fitzwilliam (bookplate to front pastedown). Fine copy. (#002483) € 2,000

Fulton 26; Krivatsy 1667; Norman 301; Osler 939; Wellcome II, p.221; Wing B3930. - Second enlarged edition with Boyle's important treatise *Of Absolute Rest of Bodies*, not included in the first edition. "The importance of the '*Essays*' lies in the fact that in a very real sense it was a 'prologue' to the more widely known '*Sceptical Chymist*' since it continued the attack on the alchemists begun in '*New Experiments*', and actually it was as much a landmark in the history of chemistry. In the '*Essays*' Boyle gives the first clear outline of his corpuscular hypothesis concerning the nature of matter, which was to be the guiding principle of all his later chemical studies; he also set forth the concept in greater detail in '*Forms and Qualities*' (1666) ... The '*Essays*' must have been widely read, since it appeared twice in English and nine times in Latin." (Fulton, p.20-21).

9 BOYLE, Robert. *Some Considerations Touching the Usefulness of Experimental Natural Philosophy Propos'd in a Familiar Discourse to a Friend by way of Invitation to the Study of it.* Three parts in two volume bound in one. Oxford: Hen: Hall for Ri: Davis, 1664. [Bound with] *Some Considerations Touching the Usefulness Of Experimentall Philosophy : ... The Second Tome, Containing the later Section of the Second Part.* Oxford: Printed by Henry Hall ... for Ric Davis, 1671. 4to (198 x 156 mm). [14], [2] 1-126 (i.e., 124), [2]; 3-416 (i.e., 410), [16] pp.; [26], 1-47 [3], [2] 1-20,

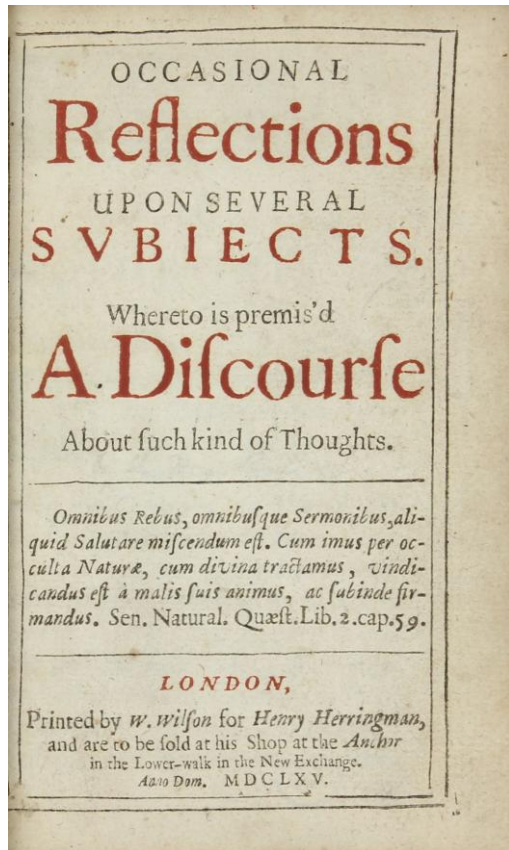


[4] 1-14, [2] 1-28 [2] 29-31 [1], [2] 1-26, [2] 1-50 pp. several mispaginations. Signatures: Vol. 1: *4 **4 B-R⁴ a-z⁴ 2a-2z⁴ 3a-3d⁴(-3d4) 3f-3g⁴; Vol. 2: [par.]⁴ *4 **4 (-***1), A-F⁴ G², A-C⁴, A-B⁴, A-D⁴ E², A-C⁴ D², A-F⁴ G². Head- and tail-pieces, initials. Vol 1 Title-page within double-ruled border. "Of the usefulness of natural philosophy. The second part" has separate divisional title page, pagination, and register. "An appendix to the first section of the second part" has half title on 2o3. Without the vertical label-title 3d4. Vol. 2 with general half-title on[par.]1, G2 blank, half-titles to all tracts, C4v with vertical half title, but lacking the contents leaf ***1. 20th century half calf over marbled boards, spine with 4 raised bands and compartments lettered and decorated in gilt, original front flyleaf preserved. Internally only little age-toned with light browning to margins, a few occasional spots, otherwise crisp and clean. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso and p.51). (#002488) € 2,800

Fulton 52B ('B' issue with two l's in word 'Naturall' on title-page) & Fulton 53; Honeyman 461, 462. Ostler 943. - SECOND EDITION of volume 1, FIRST EDITION of volume 2. Vol. 1, pt. 1 titled "Of its usefulness in reference to the minde of man"; pt. 2, section 1 titled "Of its usefulness to physick." Vol. 2 contains "Of the usefulness of mathematicks to naturall philosophy", "Of the usefulness of mechanicall disciplines to naturall philosophy - That the goods of mankind may be much encreased by the naturalists infight into trades: with an appendix", "Of doing by physicall knowledge what is wont to require manuall skill", "Of Mens great ignorance of the uses of naturall things."

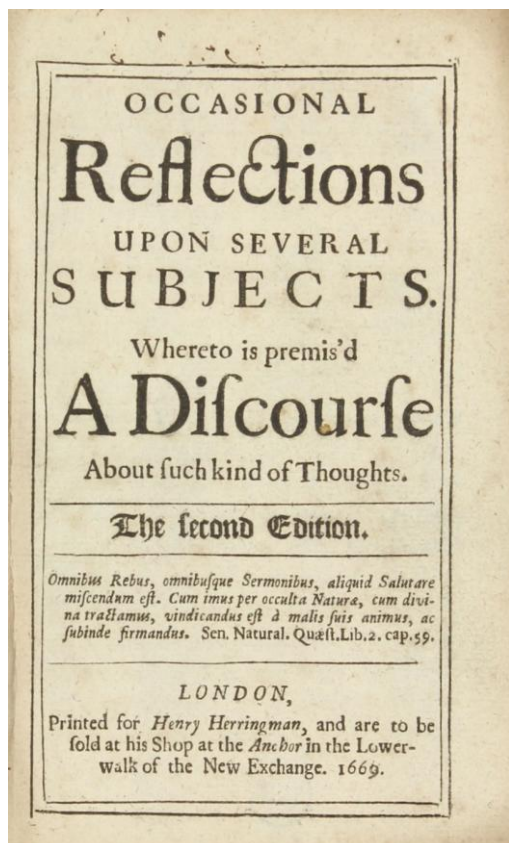
"There is no work from which one can gain a better idea of the state of medicine about the middle of the seventeenth century. The second part constitutes Boyle's most extensive single medical work, and argues for the scientific method to be applied to medicine, such as chemical distillation and the theory of corpuscularianism." (Osler). The gathering of the second work is very variable, and it is difficult to find two copies alike (Fulton 53).

10 BOYLE, Robert. *Occasional Reflections upon several Subjects* [sic]. *Whereto is premis'd a Discourse about such Kind of Thoughts.* London: W. Wilson for Henry Herringman, 1665. 2 parts in one vol. 8vo (165 x 106 mm). [40], 1-80, 161-264, 1-229, [11] pp. A⁸ a⁸ b⁴ B-F⁸ M-R⁸ S⁴ Aa-Pp⁸. Title printed in red and black, imprimatur leaf before title, advertisement leaf after S4 not included. "Occasional reflections. The IV. section" (caption title) has separate pagination and register.QUIRES G-L and p. 81-161 are omitted but the text is continuous. Later calf (boards and extremities rubbed). Text only little browned, some ink underlinings in text, upper margin trimmed close affecting page numbers on a few leaves. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso and p.51). Good copy. (#002494) € 1,200



Fulton 64; Wing B4005, Honeyman 464. - FIRST EDITION. Largely written whilst on holiday at Stalbridge in Dorset, Boyle reflects upon many subjects including angling ('Upon Fishing with a counterfeit Fly' and 'Upon Catching Store of Fish at a Baited Place'), 'Upon the Sports being interrupted by Rainy-weather' and 'Upon the Eating of Oysters', "Boyle's discursive style made him the object of playful satire, and Swift confesses that the present work was the inspiration of his 'Occasional Meditations on a Broomstick', and it is usually stated that Reflection III of Section VI on 'The Eating of Oysters' (p. 194) gave birth to Gulliver's Travels." (Fulton). "The book was once wrongly attributed to Isaac Walton." (Honeyman 464).

11 BOYLE, Robert. *Occasional Reflections upon several Subjects.* *Whereto is premis'd a Discourse about such Kind of Thoughts.* London: Printed for Henry Herringman, 1669. 2 parts in one vol. 8vo (165 x 106 mm). [40], 413 [1], [8] pp. Signatures: A⁸ a⁸ b⁴ B-Z⁸ Aa-Dd⁸ Ee⁴. Contemporary calf, rebacked (boards rubbed, corners restored and bumped). Internally little browned and spotted, preliminary leaf a2 trimmed at lower margin costing a few letters. Provenance: G. L. Benson (inscription on front pastedown dated 1834); F. M. Godwin Walliss (inscription on front pastedown); The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso and p.51). (#002492) € 400



Fulton 65; Wing B4006. SECOND EDITION. Largely written whilst on holiday at Stalbridge in Dorset, Boyle reflects upon many subjects including angling ('Upon Fishing with a counterfeit Fly' and 'Upon Catching Store of Fish at a Baited Place'), 'Upon the Sports being interrupted by Rainy-weather' and 'Upon the Eating of Oysters', "Boyle's discursive style made him the object of playful satire, and Swift confesses that the present work was the inspiration of his 'Occasional Meditations on a Broomstick', and it is usually stated that Reflection III of Section VI on 'The Eating of Oysters' (p. 194) gave birth to Gulliver's Travels." (Fulton, p.47). "The book was once wrongly attributed to Isaac Walton." (Honeyman 464)

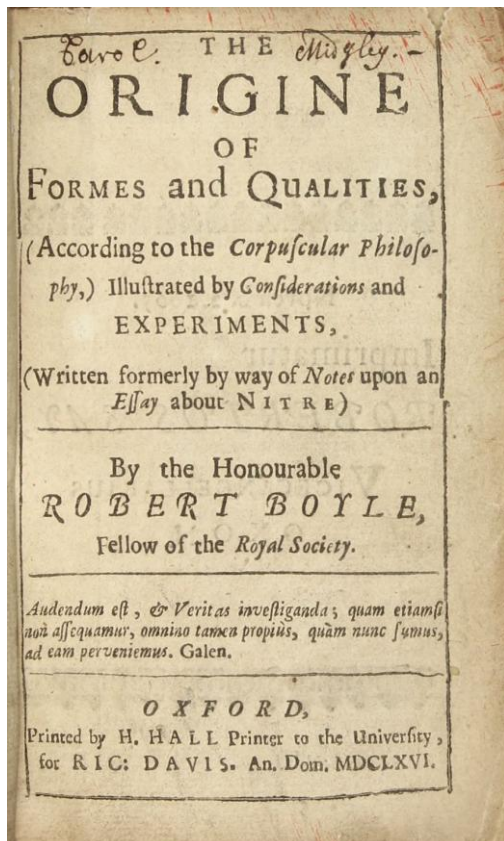
12 BOYLE, Robert. *Occasional Reflections by the Hon. Robert Boyle.* London: John Sharpe, 1820. 12mo (129 x 82 mm). [2], [5] 6-155 [1] pp. Engraved title-page, half-title bound after title.



Contemporary diced calf, boards ruled in gilt (boards and spine detached). Internally clean and crisp, only some foxing to title-page. Provenance: G. Fullerton (inscribed on first flyleaf and dated 1828); The library of Hugh Selbourne. (#002501) € 400

Fulton 67. Fourth edition, very rare. Largely written whilst on holiday at Stalbridge in Dorset, Boyle reflects upon many subjects including angling ('Upon Fishing with a counterfeit Fly' and 'Upon Catching Store of Fish at a Baited Place'), 'Upon the Sports being interrupted by Rainy-weather' and 'Upon the Eating of Oysters', "Boyle's discursive style made him the object of playful satire, and Swift confesses that the present work was the inspiration of his 'Occasional Meditations on a Broomstick', and it is usually stated that Reflection III of Section VI on 'The Eating of Oysters' (p. 194) gave birth to Gulliver's Travels." (Fulton, p.47).

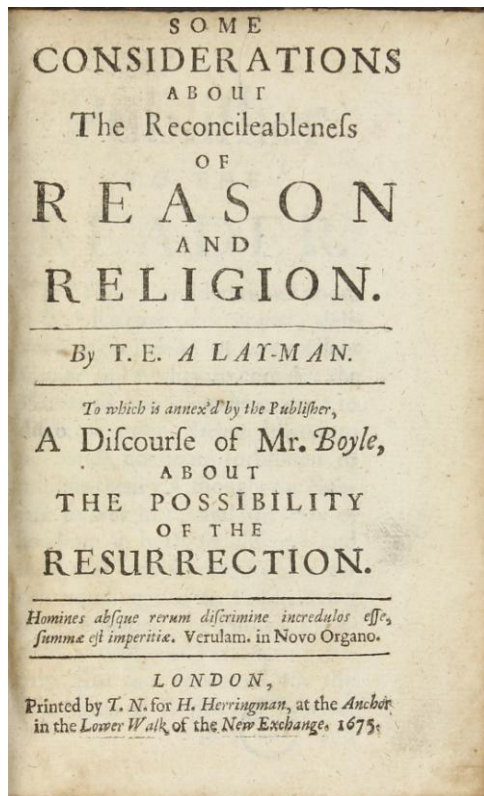
13 BOYLE, Robert. *The Origine of Formes and Qualities.* Oxford: Printed by H. Hall, for Ric Davis, 1666. 8vo (137 x 89 mm). [50], 1-269, [5], 271-433 [1] pp., errata on final page, two-leaves



advertisements on T7-8, imprimatur on title-leaf verso dated November 2, 1665. Signatures: a-b⁸ A² B-S⁸ T⁸ (T6+χ1.2) V-Z⁸ 2A-2F⁸. Contemporary calf (early rebacking, upper hinge repaired, corners worn and bumped, boards soiled). Internally somewhat browned and spotted (final two leaves stronger), few leaves with marginal dampstains, tiny hole in leaf a1 affecting two letters recto and verso. Provenance: Carol Migley, and John Newton (early ownership inscriptions on flyleaf and title-page), The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso). (#002485) € 1,500

Fulton 77; Wing B4014. - FIRST EDITION. In '*The Origine of Formes and Qualities*', Boyle argued that the defining properties of objects came not from within, but rather from the effects they produced upon the world around them. "In his essay on 'Colours' and in the present work Boyle paved the way for the Newtonian concept of light. His predecessors had held that the properties of a body were due to its innate qualities: that grass was green because it had 'greenness' in it. In this work Boyle argued that the qualities of bodies resulted not entirely from their innate substance, but rather from the effects which they produced upon their immediate surroundings" (Fulton, p.55).

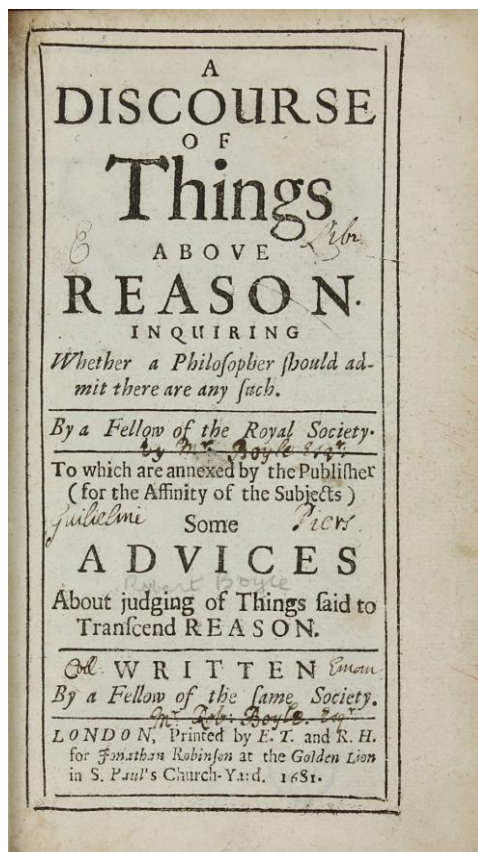
- 14 **BOYLE, Robert.** *Some Considerations about the Reconcilableness of Reason and Religion.* By T.E. A Lay-man. To Which is Annex'd by the Publisher, A Discourse of Mr. Boyle, About the Possibility



of the Resurrection. 2 parts in one volume. London: Printed by T[homas] N[ewcomb] for H. Herringman, 1675. 8vo (167 x 104 mm). [4], [20], 126, [2]; [8], 39 [1] pp. Signatures: A⁸ a⁴ B-I⁸; A-C⁸ D⁴. Errata on a4v for first part and on A4v for second part. Including final blank to first part. Second part has separate title-page "*Some physico-theological considerations about the possibility of the resurrection.*" Contemporary speckled calf, spine titled and decorated in gilt (extremities rubbed), red-sprinkled edges. Internally only little browned, occasional very minor spotting. Top margin trimmed close, touching page numbering on one page. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso and p.51). Handsome copy. (#002498) € 1,000

Fulton 122; Wing B4024. This, one of Boyle's lesser theological treatises, is appended by his publisher to an unrelated tract 'Reason and Religion' signed 'T.E. A Lay-man' whom we have been unable to identify ... The tract is more earthy than spiritual, but at the end of a long argument, which is difficult to follow, Boyle concludes that the Resurrection of the body is not incompatible with Natural Philosophy." (Fulton, pp. 86-87).

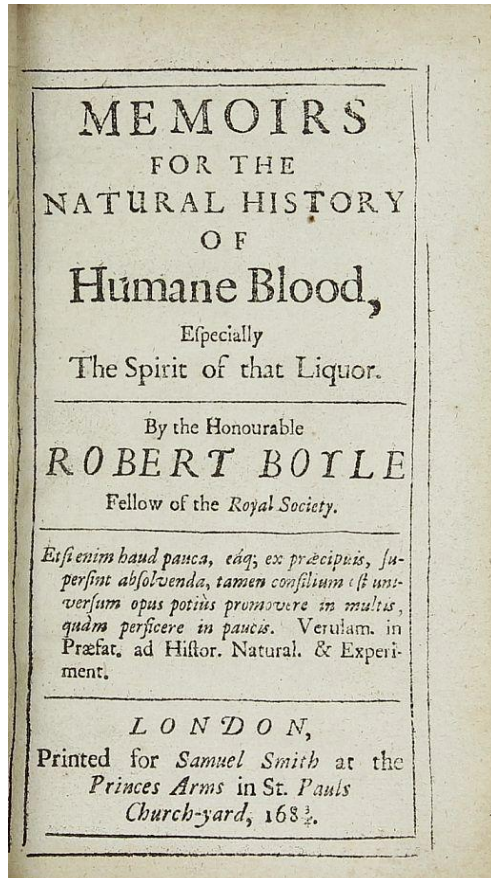
- 15 **BOYLE, Robert.** *A Discourse of Things above Reason Inquiring Whether a Philosopher should admit there are any such... To which are annexed by the Publisher (for the Affinity of the Subject) Some Advices About judging of Things said to Transcend Reason.* London: Printed by E.T. and R.H. for Jonathan Robinson, 1681. 2 parts in one volume. 8vo (159 x 92 mm). [4], 94, 100 pp. Signatures: A² B-G⁸ (-G8), Aa-Ff⁸ Gg².



Advertisement leaf and errata partly cancelled in ink on A2 "Advices in judging of things said to transcend reason" (caption title) begins new pagination on Aa1. Without the integral blank G8. Later calf, spine with morocco label titled in gilt, boards and spine ruled and decorated in blind. Internally only very little age-toned, unspotted and unstained. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso and p.51); Guilielmi Piers (inscription on title-page). A fine crisp copy. (#002491) € 2,800

Fulton 144; Wing B3945. - FIRST EDITION, SECOND ISSUE, with last quire Gg reset in wider measure to allow for addition of text at end and with 26 lines of text (last line reads "night.") on final page 100." Very rare. Only one copy recorded at auctions in the past 30 years. "The present discourse is an amusing philosophical 'quadrilogue' with Sophronius (Boyle), Eugenius, Pyrocles, and Timotheus as speakers, in which the dilemma of the mind attempting to explain itself is freely discussed ... There are several remarkably fine passages and the point of view throughout is refreshing and original ... The second tract on 'Judging of things said to transcend Reason', also a quadrilogue ... is somewhat more laboured and its arguments more academic. Its authorship is not established" (Fulton, p.144).

16 **BOYLE, Robert.** *Memoirs for the Natural History of Humane Blood, Especially the Spirit of that Liquor.* London: Samuel Smith, 1683/4. 8vo (159 x 94 mm). [xvi], 289, [7] pp., including cancel

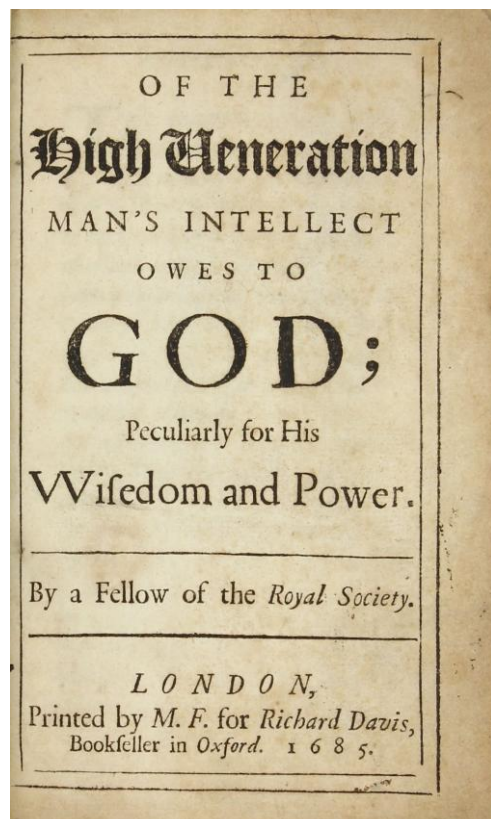


title, title within 2-line rule border, with the 3 final advertisement leaves. Contemporary calf (upper hinge repaired). Internally only little browned. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small stamp to title verso). A fine, crisp and unmarked copy. (#002222) € 7,500

Fulton 146b; Norman 308; Heirs of Hippocrates 565; Wing B3993; Garrison-Morton 861; NLM/Krivatsy 1708; Waller 1388; Wellcome II, p.223 (1684 ed.); Cushing B579. - FIRST EDITION, second issue of "the first analysis of blood, Boyle's Memoirs may be considered the first scientific study in physiological chemistry, exhibiting methods which have become universally adopted." (Garrison & Morton).

"The present work is Boyle's most important medical contribution and is one of the first to deal with the scientific analysis of the blood. Bloodletting was still quite common at the time, so Boyle had little difficulty obtaining blood for his experiments. In his analysis of the blood, Boyle includes its properties of taste, temperature, combustibility, and weight and also mentions its serous and red portions, volatile and fixed salts, oil, mucus content, etc. He discusses human and animal blood, and describes a series of experiments to test the anticoagulating properties of various substances. Boyle also provides a series of remedies prepared from blood for a wide variety of ailments from hysteria and epilepsy to coughs and other respiratory complaints." (Heirs of Hippocrates 565).

17 **BOYLE, Robert.** *Of the high Veneration Man's Intellect owes to God; peculiarly for his Wisdom and Power.* London: Printed by M.F. for Richard Davis, bookseller in Oxford, 1685. 8vo (169 x 102 mm). [4], 115 [1] pp. Signatures: A², B-H⁸ I². Contemporary speckled calf with simple rebacking, spine lettered in gilt (little wear to extremities),

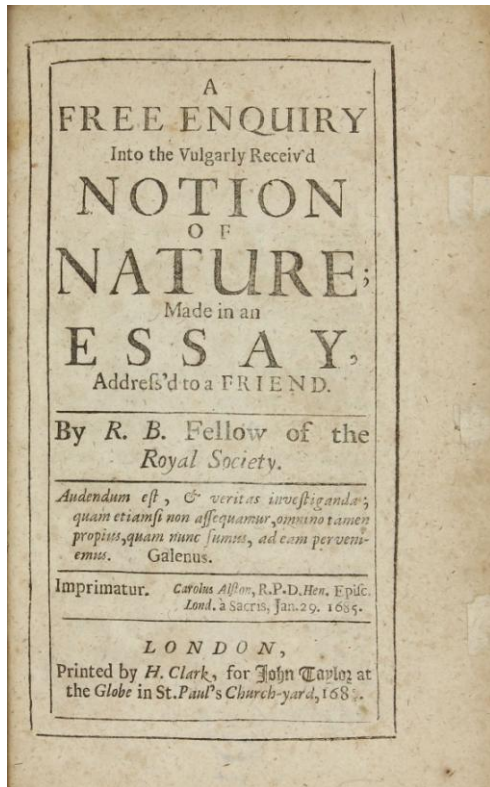


endpapers renewed. Internally little browned and dust soiled at margins, occasional very minor spotting, hole in blank lower margin of p 77/78 (paper flare). Provenance: H. Wood (bookplate to front pastedown); The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso). (#002493) € 1,500

Fulton 152; Wing B4009. - FIRST EDITION in English, RARE. "The loose sheets this paper consists of, having been written at somewhat distant times and places, and hastily tack'd together; so that when the latter sheets were penning the former were often not at hand: 'tis hop'd that if some few things should chance to be either misplaced or repeated, the fault will be thought venial', &c. So the 'Advertisement' reads, and a persual of the text convinces one of its honesty. There is little in its ill-digested piety to recommend either the book or its author, and one finds it difficult to recognize, in anything but the Advertisement, the hand that penned the 'Spring and Weight of the Air' and 'The Style of the Scriptures'." (Fulton p.104).

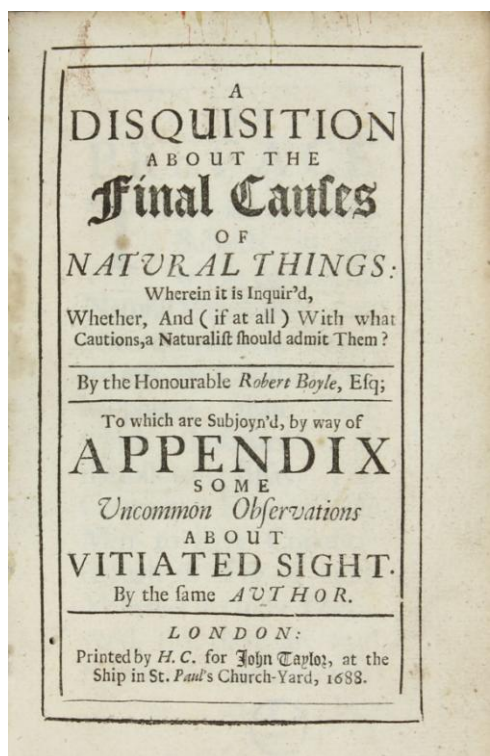
18 BOYLE, Robert. *A Free Enquiry into the Vulgarly Receiv'd Notion of Nature; made in an essay, address'd to a friend.* London: John Taylor, 1685-1686. 8vo (167 x 110 mm). [24], 412, [4] pp. Signatures: A⁸, a⁴ (-a4), B-Dd⁸ (-Dd8). Without the advertisement leaf found in some copies inserted after a4 and the final blank Dd8, publisher's catalogue on final leaf. Contemporary calf (spine rebacked, boards rubbed, endpapers renewed), spine decorated and titled in gilt. Internally somewhat evenly browned and spotted, worming in lower blank margin of final leaves, pencil annotations to p.253, small burn hole in O8, few leaves with paper flaws at fore-margin. Provenance: James Woodcock (ownership inscription dated 1818 on front flyleaf); The library of Hugh Selbourne

(small ink stamp to title verso). Good, wide-margined copy. (#002486) € 1,700



Fulton 170; Sotheran 532; Wing B4014. - FIRST EDITION. Scarce essay by Robert Boyle, with no copies listed in the American Book Prices Current as having sold at auction since 1980. "After thirty years of experimentation and observation of natural phenomena Boyle appears in this thoughtful treatise to have reached his maturity as a philosopher; had he lived some fifteen years earlier he might, with Lucretius, have entitled his message 'On the Nature of Things'; but equally well he could with his contemporary, Isaac Newton, have called it his '*Principia*'. The book deals with the laws of motion, less precisely, to be sure, than did the forty-four-year-old Newton the following year. He tells us that the current views of Nature were incompatible both with religion and philosophy, arguing that one must distinguish between 'universal nature' and 'particular nature', the former being the result of general cosmic principles such as the laws of motion ... and the latter the result of the general laws applied to a specific natural object. The growth of Boyle's theory of the universe as presented in '*Forms and Qualities*', '*Cosmicall Qualities*', and the present work forms an important phase in the history of natural philosophy that is little known" (Fulton, p.112-3).

19 BOYLE, Robert. *A Disquisition About the Final Causes of Natural Things,* front free endpaper loose, London: H.C., for John Taylor, 1688. 8vo (170 x 111 mm). [16], 274, [6] pp., including errata leaf and publisher's catalogue at end, separate title at page [239]. Contemporary plain calf, blind-ruled boards and spine (rubbed, corners worn and bumped), red-sprinkled edges, binding of a few gatherings a bit weak but holding, lacking rear endpaper, front flyleaf loose.



Internally only little browned, very minor occasional spotting. Provenance: S. Newcomen; The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso). (#002484) € 2,000

Fulton 186A; Wing B3946. FIRST EDITION, issue with Boyle's name on the title. Fulton describes the Disquisition as "a plea for the teleological interpretation of natural phenomena. He interprets, for example, the perpendicular pupil of the cat's eye as the result of having constantly to climb up and down walls and other steep places (p. 64), while the transverse slit of the pupils of horses and oxen is adapted to their accustomed lateral gaze." It includes a "record of a conversation with William Harvey on how he discovered the circulation of the blood."

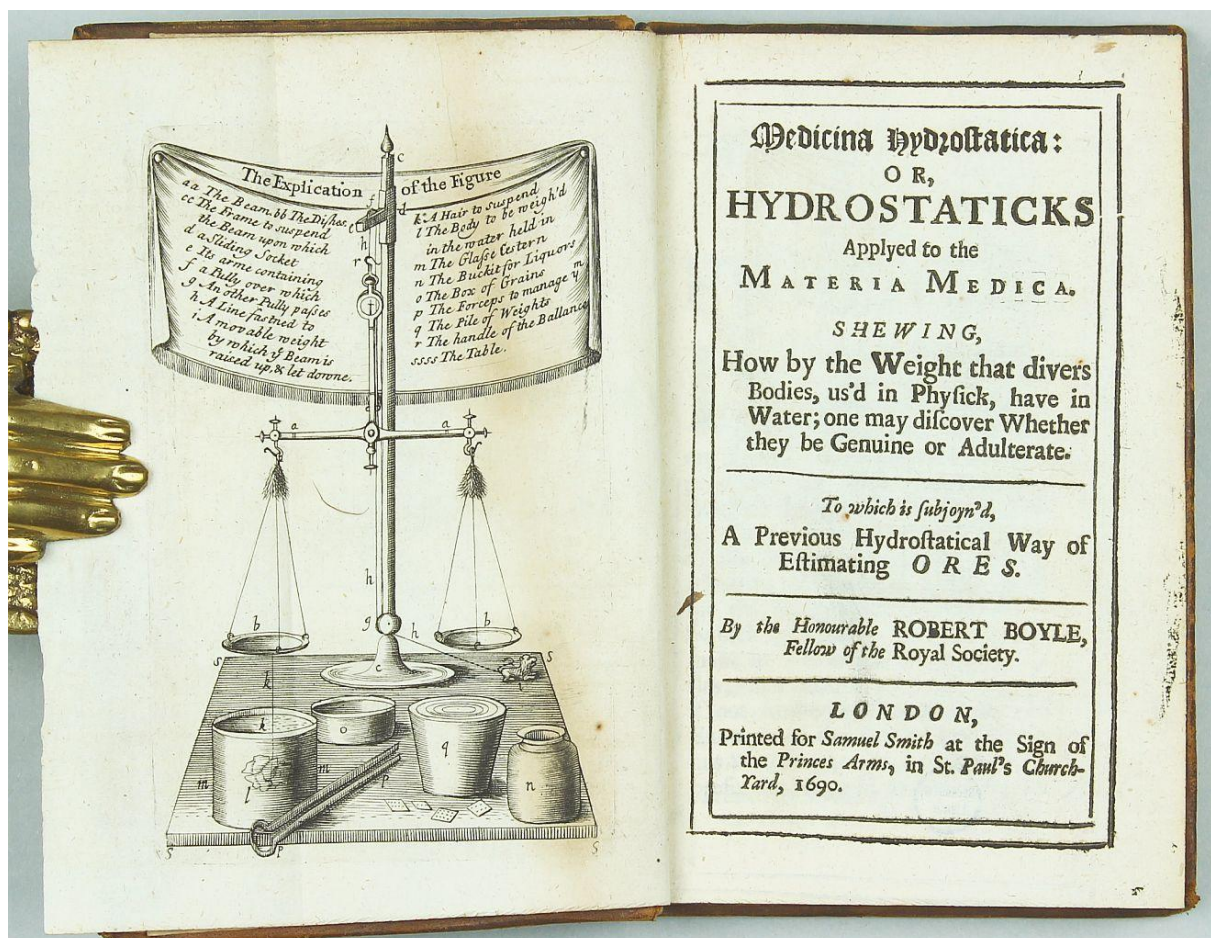
"In this tract Boyle takes us into his confidence and gives us briefly his 'confessio fidei' as a biologist. On p. 157 he records a

conversation with William Harvey on the discovery of the circulation of the blood. Appended to the 'Disquisition' is a brief tract on disturbances of vision. A variety of case histories are recorded, drawn from Boyle's own experience, and the tract appears to be one of the first in which this method of teaching was employed in an ophthalmological treatise." (Weil XXXII, 195).

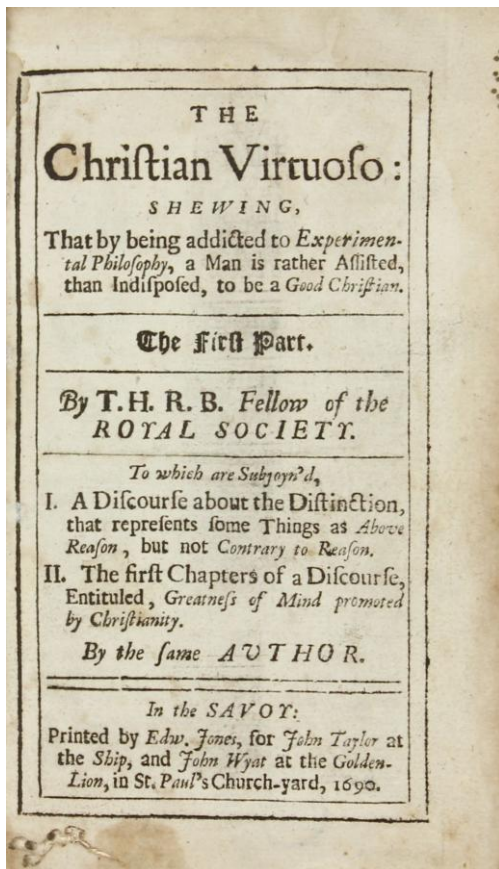
20 BOYLE, Robert. *Medicina hydrostatica: or, Hydrostaticks Applied to the Materia Medica. Shewing, How by the Weight that Divers Bodies, Us'd in Physick, Have in Water; one may Discover Whether they be Genuine or Adulterate. To which is Subjoyn'd, a Previous Hydrostatical Way of Estimating Ores.* London: Samuel Smith, 1690. 8vo (162 x 100 mm). [24], 217, [7]; [2], 14 pp., including half-title, folding engraved frontispiece, and with the 'Catalogue of the Philosophical Books and Tracts' at end. Internally clean and crisp, slight printer's ink smudges to leaves N3-4. 18th century panelled sheep, spine with morocco label (spine rubbed, corners bumped and scuffed). Provenance: Mountstuart bookplate of the Earls of Bute to front pastedown. A fine copy of one of the rarest of Boyle's works. (#002223) € 8,500

Fulton 189; Wellcome II, p.224; Wing B3928A; Neville, Historical Chemical Library I, 2006, p. 200. - "One of Boyle's last writings and important as the first work in English on determining specific gravity. The catalogue at the end is rare and was added to only a few copies." (Neville). "The book is not common and has not been reprinted except for the Geneva edition" (Fulton, p.128).

It "was written by Boyle the year before his death. He explains in the preface that he borrowed the title from Santorio's *Medicina Statica*, and he might have apologized for the term 'medicina', for, in modern parlance, the book is essentially a monograph devoted to a special branch of physics... it was Boyle who first directed the attention of physicists and chemists to the importance of specific gravity. Pages 145 to 224 are of considerable interest in the history of mineralogy showing the specific gravities of various ores.



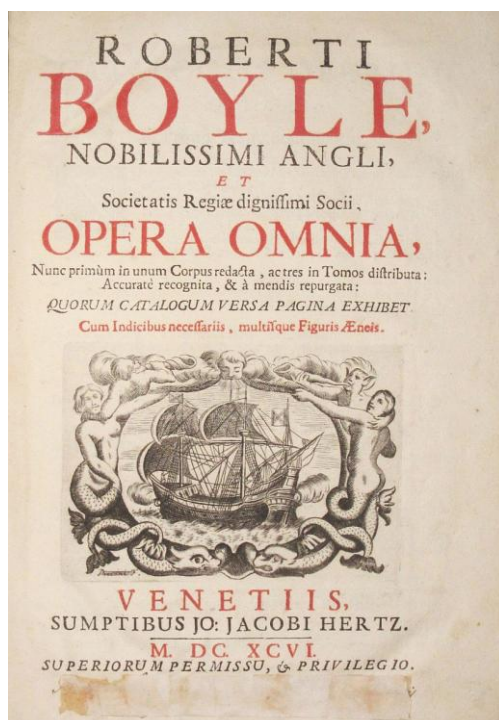
- 21 **BOYLE, Robert.** *The Christian Virtuoso: Shewing that by Being Addicted to Experimental Philosophy, a Man is Rather Assisted, than Indisposed, to be a Good Christian. The First Part. To which are subjoyn'd, i. A discourse about the distinction, that represents some things as above reason, but not contrary to reason. ii. The first chapters of a discourse, entituled, Greatness of mind promoted by Christianity.* Three parts in one volume. [London]: Edw. Jones, for John Taylor, and John Wyat, 1690-1691. 8vo



(166 x98 mm). [20], 120; [4], 35 [1]; [2], 57 [1] pp. Signatures: pi² A-H⁸ I⁴, A-C⁴, A-C⁸ D⁶. Separate title-pages and paginations to each part, last part "*Greatness of mind promoted by Christianity*" with 1691 as year of publication. Including first blank. Contemporary calf with old rebacking, spine gilt with lettering piece titled in gilt (hinges repaired, without first flyleaf). Internally little browned, worming to lower blank margin of first leaves, faint dampstaining to final two leaves. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to half-title verso and p.51). Good copy. (#002495) € 1,500

Fulton 191; Wing B3931, B4019, B3983. FIRST EDITIONS, first issues, without half-title and with uncanceled title-page mentioning "John Wyat" in the imprint. "This tract has certain human interest since in the Preface to Part I, and also in the text itself, Boyle discusses the reasons why as a professed scientist he has devoted so much attention to religion, or between reason and dogmatic faith - and he wishes to state his conviction (Fulton, p.130). The second part of *The Christian virtuoso* was not published until 1744. "Reflections upon a theological distinction" (Wing B4019) and "Greatness of mind, promoted by Christianity" (Wing B3983) each have separate dated title page, pagination, and register. Neither were separately published.

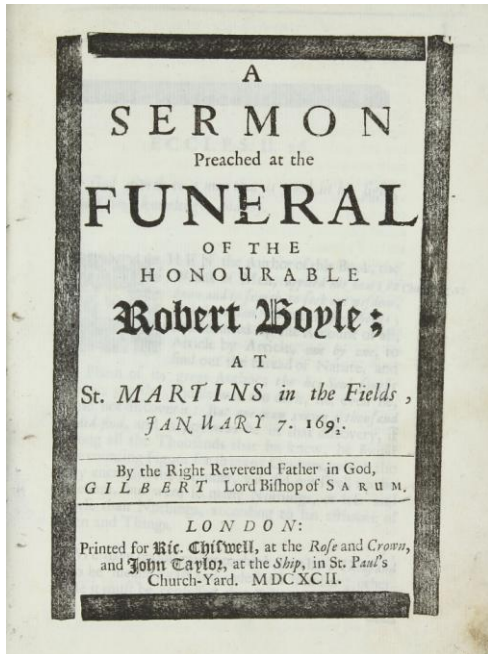
- 22 **BOYLE, Robert.** *Opera Omnia.* Venice: Jacobi Hertz, 1696-1697. 3 volumes, 4to (232 x 163 mm). [16], 1036; [12], 903, [9]; [16], 512, 333 [1] pp. Half-title and title printed in red and black with title vignette in vol. I, engraved portrait, 12 engraved plates of which 11 folding, some woodcut illustrations, woodcut head- and -tail pieces and initials, frequent mispaginations, occasional light browning, minor paper flaws. Contemporary vellum, morocco labels (extremities rubbed, some staining). Erased inscriptions on titles (pasted over with paper), old shelf mark label to spines of 2 vols. A fine unsophisticated set, internally quite clean and virtually unspotted. (#001788) € 2,800



(#001788) € 2,800

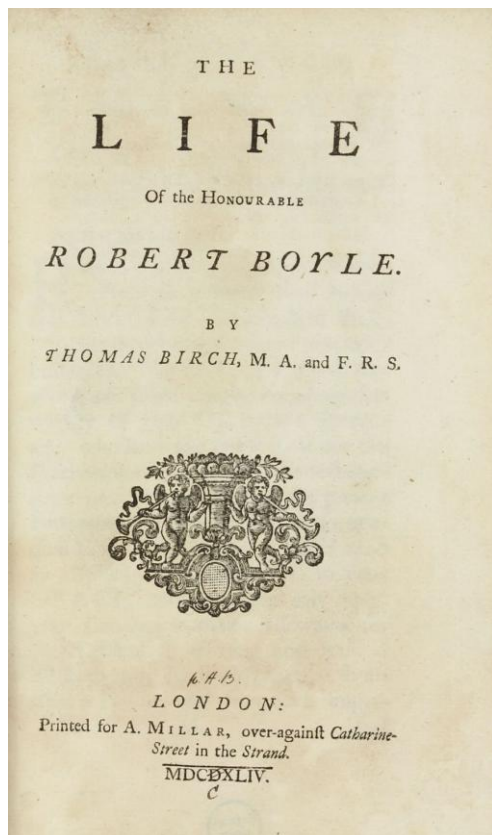
Fulton 242. - THE RARE FIRST EDITION of the collected works in Latin.

23 BURNET, Gilbert. *A Sermon Preached at the Funeral of the Honourable Robert Boyle; at St Martins in the Fields, January 7. 1691/2.* London: Richard Chiswell and John Taylor, 1692. 4to (182 x 144 mm). [4] 5-40 pp. Signatures: A-E4. Including half-title. Some offsetting to text. Disbound. Text generally clean and little age-toned, a few occasional spots. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne. (#002490) € 300



Fulton 299; Wing B5899. The very rare first edition, issue "A", with narrower black border and last line on p.33 reading 'the Account of Optinion' (see Fulton). One a single copy of this issue is recorded at auctions in the past 40 years. "The necrological sheets of 17th-century worthies are rare, and it is seldom that more than one or two copies have survived ... In the case of Boyle, seven elegies are known, and his funeral sermon was issued at least four times." (Fulton, p.170).

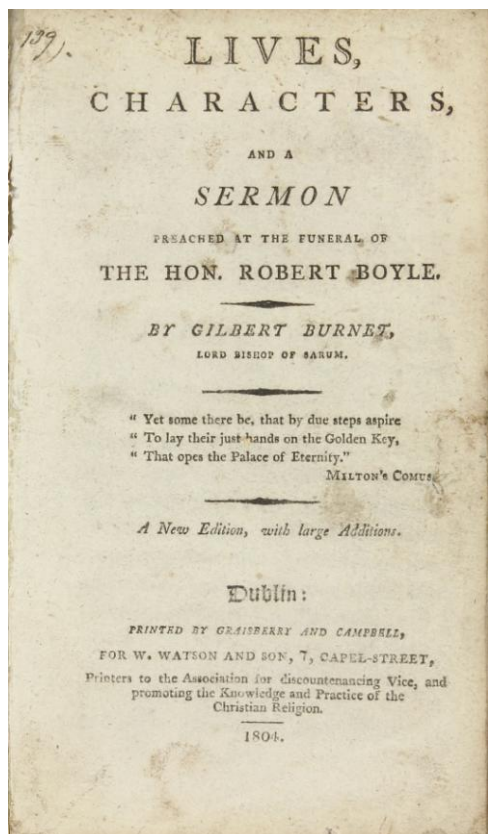
24 BIRCH, Robert. *The Life of the honourable Robert Boyle.* London: A. Millar, 1744. 8vo (201 x 124 mm). [6], 458, [16] pp. Publisher's adverts leaf bound before title and another after final numbered page, 16 pp. index bound at the end.



Contemporary tree calf, gilt spine with gilt-lettered red morocco label (hinges cracked but holding, spine ends chipped, little wear to extremities). Internally clean and only very little browned. Provenance: William Hart Coleridge (armorial bookplate to front pastedown); The library of Hugh Selbourne (small ink stamp to title verso and p.51). (#002500) € 400

Fulton 380; Honeyman 333. First separate edition; also appended to the 1744 collected edition of Boyle's works. The chief early authority for a biography of Boyle (Fulton 380).

25 **BURNET, Gilbert.** *Lives, characters, and a sermon preached at the funeral of the Hon. Robert Boyle.* Dublin: printed by Graisberry and Campbell, for W. Watson and Son..., 1804. 8vo (167 x



101 mm). ix [1], [10], 320 [2] pp., including final blank. Separate half-title pages for "Some passages of the life and death of...John Earl of Rochester", "A Sermon preached at the funeral of...John Earl of Rochester", "A Sermon preached at the funeral of...Robert Boyle", and "Biographical extracts from Bishop Burnet's history of his own times." Contemporary calf, spine with gilt-lettered label (boards, spine and extremities rubbed, corners worn). Internally little browned and occasionally spotted, title-page and first leaves somewhat dust soiled, occasional pencil annotations and markings in text. Provenance: The library of Hugh Selbourne.

(#002503)

€ 300

FIRST EDITION, very rare. Content: The life and death of Sir Matthew Hale...[by Gilbert Burnet, pp. (1)-99] - Additional notes of the life and death of Sir Matthew Hale...written by Richard Baxter [pp. 101-128] - Some passages of the life and death of...John Earl of Rochester...by Gilbert Burnet [pp. (129)-211] - A Sermon preached at the funeral of...John Earl of Rochester...by Robert Parsons [pp. (213)-245] - A Sermon preached at the funeral of...Robert Boyle [by Gilbert Burnet, pp. (247)-285] - Biographical extracts from Bishop Burnet's history of his own times [pp. (287)-320].

Frequently cited works

Fulton: J. F. Fulton. *A bibliography of the Honourable Robert Boyle.* 2nd edition. Oxford, 1961.

Norman: Jeremy M. Norman & Diana H. Hook. *The Haskell E Norman Library of Science & Medicine.* San Francisco, 1991. 2 vols.

Wing: Wing, Donald, comp. *Short-Title-Catalog of Books Printed in England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and British America and of English Books Printed in Other Countries 1641-1700.* NY: Modern Language Association of America, 1972. 3 vols

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