
Robert N. Essick

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After a year's hiatus, the upper reaches of the Blake market returned to newsworthiness in 1993. Blake's final version of *The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins* shifted by private sales from one American collection (Hofer family) to another (anonymous). This is the most important Blake water color to change hands since 1991, when the National Gallery of Art in Washington acquired *The Death of St. Joseph* (and arguably more important than it, or *Infant Jesus Saying His Prayers* in the Doheny auction of February 1989). Another major work, a color-printed impression of just the design from *Jerusalem* plate 6, made a similar move between private American collections (from the family of Ian Woodner to another "anonymous"), but through the more public vehicle of a New York auction, where it set a record price for any single print from one of Blake's books. The outstanding qualities of this work can be appreciated by glancing back to the color reproduction on the cover of the fall 1993 issue of this journal (vol. 27, no. 2); see also pages 36-42 in the same issue for a discussion of its significance.

The *Jerusalem* impression has joined a considerable group of Blake's colored prints, in addition to one important water color, in a private American collection. This is now the finest Blake collection in private hands, particularly when it comes to illuminated books. It is remarkable that such a collection could be assembled since 1986. I am not permitted to record the owner's name, but it may serve some purpose to list here the major works I believe are now in this collection:

- America, copy R
- *The Book of Thel*, copy A
- "The Echoing Green" from *Songs of Innocence*. First plate, upper design only, partly hand colored
- *Infant Jesus Saying His Prayers*. Water color, Butlin #473
- *Jerusalem* plate 6. Design only, color printed and hand colored
- Little Tom the Sailor, hand colored by Blake
- "The Poison Tree" from *Songs of Experience*, copy G.
- Color printed and hand colored
- *Songs of Innocence*, copies A, H, and N
- *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*, copy D

The auction season for Blakeans concluded with the spectacular sale of the Frank Rinder collection at Christie's in London on 30 November. All 13 lots, to which the auction house devoted a separate, well-illustrated catalogue, had been acquired by Rinder early in this century and had resided for many years in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Ramsay Harvey. She died in the summer of 1993, and the Blake books and prints were consigned to the auction house by her heirs. The auction, which I was fortunate enough to attend, was the most important sale of Blake's prints since the 1958 dispersal of Francis White Emerson's illuminated books at Sotheby's. Thirty years of writing academic prose is poor preparation for you-are-there reportage, but I will try to give some sense of the action, lot by lot.

The auction of *Books and Prints by William Blake from the Collection Formed by the Late Frank Rinder, Esq.* (catalogue title) began promptly at 2:30 pm in Christie's main sales room in King Street, St. James's. Several of London's major antiquarian book dealers attended, including Edward Maggs of Maggs Bros., Kirstie Bain of Pickering & Chatto, and Max Reed of Sims Reed. Dealers in British prints—Christopher Drake, Andrew Edmunds, Christopher Mendez, William Weston, Nicholas Lott, Michael Campbell—outnumbered the bookish contingent. Most were there to watch the drama, not to bid. Many hovered near the entry door, as though to pretend that they had only a casual interest in the event. An exception was the San Francisco book dealer (and Blake specialist) John Windle, who sat directly in front of the auctioneer, David Llewellyn of Christie's Print Department. I sat next to Windle, who would be bidding for me on several lots. I did not spot any other collectors, perhaps because none was so indelicate as to descend into the money-grubbing environs of an auction room. But several friends from the museum and academic world were there to join in the fun, including Karen Blansfield, David Bindman, Martin Butlin, Robin Hamlyn, Jane Munro, Guillian Sutherland, and Joseph Viscomi. As we will see, Joe had already played a major role in the pre-sale maneuvering.

The first lot was copy L of *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, consisting of plates 25-27 ("A Song of Liberty," see illus. 4-5). Other than a color-printed impression of the design only from plate 20, these are the last plates from the *Marriage* still in private hands (plate 11, listed in Bentley 302 as in the collection of Caroline Newton, has been in the collection of Princeton University Library since 1975 [Butlin #261.2]). The bidding quickly exceeded the modest catalogue estimate of £8000-12,000. As with most of the lots, there were only two serious bidders—in this instance Windle (bidding for Essick) and the London print dealer Christopher Drake. "A Song of Liberty" was knocked down to Windle for the hammer-bid (that is, the amount actually bid in the room, exclusive of the buyer's premium) of £28,000 against Drake as the "under-bidder" (the party who makes the bid immediately before the winning one).

Those not used to the pace of an auction hardly had time to catch their breath before the next lot had already surpassed its pre-sale estimate of £20,000-30,000. This was plate 38 from *Milton* (illus. 6)—the only impression of any plate
from Milton still in private hands and one of only two prints not in a copy of the book (the other is an impression of plate 13 in the Philadelphia Museum of Art). The lot fell for £55,000—again to Windle for Essick against Drake. I believe that this price establishes a new record for an uncolored print by a British artist.

Jerusalem copy C—the centerpiece of the auction—followed as the third lot. This magnificent book (illus. 1-2) was given no estimate in the catalogue, but upon inquiry Christie's would allow that £500,000-800,000 was the expected range. Bidding was subdued and it was difficult to tell who was in the hunt, other than Felix de Marez Oyens of Christie's Book Department on the telephone to a customer. Jerusalem sold for a hammer-price of £560,000 to Oyens's bidder. According to Christie's International Magazine for January/February 1994, the volume is now in "the hands of a distinguished and caring collection" (65), but I presently have no clue as to which distinguished collection this might be. I would be surprised if it were an institution.

The price fetched by Jerusalem, near the low end of the estimate range, may have been a considerable disappointment to the sellers. Several members of the trade have told me that a private-treaty proposal for substantially more money had been tendered prior to the auction. A different version of the story claimed that a million pounds had been offered for the entire collection. Such a sum would have been about £165,000 more than the total in hammer-prices realized by the Rinder auction. Whatever the exact offer, it was rejected by Christie's, no doubt after consulting Rinder's heirs who had consigned the collection. The look on Oyens's face when leaving the sales room tended to confirm the rumors.

The lot immediately following an auction's chef-d'oeuvre often draws little notice. This rule-of-thumb held true, and thus lot 4, a well-printed but posthumous impression of Jerusalem plate 28 trimmed to the design (illus. 3), fell to Windle for Essick for £2,400—close to the middle of the estimate range of £2,000-3,000. For the third time, Drake was the under-bidder. If there was a bargain in the Rinder auction, this was it.

The fifth lot had caused a good deal of controversy before the sale. This was a proof impression, rather oddly printed on two sheets of paper, of designs 2-5 among Blake's Virgil wood engravings (illus. 8-9). The catalogue entry claimed that this print, and thus by implication all the other proofs of the blocks before being cut apart and trimmed, were relief etchings. This extraordinary revision in medium rested on the following observation: "... a close examination of this impression, of the two at the British Museum and of the signed example at the Fitzwilliam, along with an equally close comparison of all these with other relief etchings by Blake as well as with the 'cut' impressions of the wood engravings as published by Thornton, shows clearly that different matrices have been used." Subtle differences in tone and texture do exist, but these can be explained by the fact that Blake printed the uncut proofs in his rolling press with the intaglio ink he used for his illuminated books. The impressions in R. J. Thornton's Pastoral of Virgil (1821) were printed in a typographic press with relief ink, which is much less viscous than intaglio ink and produces flat, reticulated surfaces. The visual differences are due to differences in presswork, not to different "matrices" or media. Further, the Rinder proof is in a unique and previously unrecorded first-proof state lacking white-line work found in the three other proofs of the same images—see the captions to illus. 8-9. Finally, the graphic syntax of a relief etching is very different from a wood engraving, as demonstrated by the genuine relief etching of these same Virgil images—see Blake 25 (1991/92): 117-27. What would have been Blake's motivation—commercial, technical, or aesthetic—to produce an exact and deceptive facsimile of a wood engraving on a relief-etched metal plate?
The first salvo against Christie's catalogue description was fired by Thomas Lange of the Huntington Library in the form of a fax to David Llewelyn, the defender (and apparently the inventor) of the relief-etching theory. Next came broadsides, viva voce in Christie's Book Department only four days before the sale, from Viscomi and me. Neither a photograph of the actual relief etching nor Viscomi's arguments—the latter both cogent and enthusiastic—could shake Llewelyn's position. Instead, he speculated that Blake made the supposed relief etching by covering the raised surface of a wood engraving with acid resist, transferring this to paper or some more stable matrix, and then, to get the image the right-way around, transferring the image once again to a copperplate. This is the same sort of impractical thinking that led to the old (and now thoroughly demolished) belief that Blake used transfers to produce relief etchings. Llewelyn's theory left me speechless, but turned up Viscomi's volume and the frequency of his appeals to Occam's Razor. Why invent elaborate, exotic, and impractical processes, unprecedented in Blake's work, when simple explanations are readily available? The combatants withdrew on friendly terms, agreeing to disagree.

The case against Llewelyn's view was next taken up, only a day before the sale, by Martin Butlin. As one of Christie's most astute advisors on English art, his influence was more effectual than Viscomi's or mine. The auction house posted the following statement, also read to the audience at the beginning of the auction: "Christie's wish to emphasize that the received opinion on the medium of this print [lot 5, the Virgil proof] is that it is a first-state proof impression of the four-illustration woodblock before it was divided, as opposed to the theory on relief etching proposed in the catalogue." Announcements of this sort can poison bidding, but such was not the case on this occasion. The Virgil proof was won, after strenuous competition from Windle, by the Connecticut print dealer N. W. Lott (bidding for Maurice Sendak) at £53,000, well above the estimate range of £10,000-15,000. I believe that this is a record for a wood engraving by a British artist.

The next two lots were a complete set of Linnell impressions of the Virgil wood engravings (£4000 to Lott for stock on an estimate of £4000-6000) and a group of 17 Linnell impressions, including three duplicates (a good buy at £2200 to Windle for stock on an estimate of £2000-3000). Excitement resurfaced with lot 8, the unique first-state impression of "The Man Sweeping the Interpreter's Parlour" (illus. 7). The print was over-estimated in the catalogue at £40,000-60,000 but managed to fetch a hammer-price of £46,000 from someone bidding through Oyens on the telephone—perhaps the same "distinguished and caring collector" who acquired Jerusalem copy C. Windle was again the under-bidder.

The first-state "Man Sweeping" was followed by a very fine impression of the second state. This leapt well beyond the estimate range (£20,000-30,000) to set a record price for the print at £52,000. Unfortunately, neither I nor my army of spies could see who the winning bidder was. As its estimates indicate, Christie's believed that the first state would attract more money than the second. The reason for reversal was easy to see. The catalogue claimed that the first state was a "richly inked and atmospheric impression"; to my eyes, it was over-inked and fuzzy, with some pigment-separation problems on the right (see the caption to illus. 7). Blake's white-line work that transformed the plate into its second state lent a great deal more visual presence and power to the image, as was evident from the beautiful impression in lot 9. The prices fetched by the two prints are in accord with these aesthetic and technical differences.

Lot 10 was a somewhat dirty impression of the "Hiding of Moses" torn from a copy of Remember Me! (1824, 1825). The last such detached print (now in the collection of Detlef Dörrebecker) to come to auction brought £264—and was accompanied by a fine copy of Lavater's Essays on Physiognomy (1810) with Blake's plates and three volumes of Blake criticism (Sotheby's London, 14 Nov. 1991, #101). The Rinder impression was given the full treatment in the catalogue—scholarly description, reproduction, provenance record. The hype paid off, for the print was sold over the ambitious estimate of £800-1000 for £1700 to a bid "at the desk" (that is, a bid given by someone to the auction house prior to the sale to execute on his or her behalf).

A splendid copy of the Job engravings followed as lot 11. The prints, in the published state of 1826 after the removal of the "Proof" inscriptions, were still in the original boards with cover label; the inside upper cover bore George Richmond's signature. Maggs (almost certainly bidding for a private client) acquired the book of prints for £24,000 on an estimate of £15,000-20,000 against Sims Reed (bidding for an American dealer). Another Job was next on the block, but this was only a set of the 1874 restrikes on laid India turned by time to an unpleasant dull yellow. The only unusual feature is that this group of loose impressions was housed in a large brown paper envelope with the letter-press title, "The Book of Job by William Blake." This may have been printed for the Linnell family as the original container for the Job restrikes. The winning bid of £5,800 by Weston on an estimate of £5,000-7,000 seemed about right. Perhaps some judicious cleaning will transform these prints into a more pleasing set.

The Rinder sale ended with a whimper—merely an impression of William Bell Scott's etching of Blake's ink drawing, The Spirit of God Moved Upon the Face of the Waters (Butlin #690). Even this was reproduced in the catalogue and managed to fetch the low estimate of £80. Yet this anticlimax could not disrupt the conclusion we can draw from the Rinder sale: the marketplace now considers Blake one of the world's greatest printmakers.

The Rinder/Harvey collection also included Copy E of There is No Natural Religion, identified by Viscomi as one of several bogus copies previously thought to be genuine.
The full details of Viscomi’s amazing discoveries had not been published when, in late September, Christie’s staff was writing the auction catalogue. On 24 September I informed Viscomi about the impending sale and he contacted Christie’s with the bad news. As a result, *No Natural Religion* was omitted from the sale. Upon inquiry in October, I was told not that the book was a fake, but that “further investigation” was required before it could be sold.

Readers will find more than the usual number of copies included in the section on books with engravings by and after Blake. This results not from a sudden increase of volumes on the market, but from your intrepid reporter’s attendance at the London book fairs in June—four fairs at three venues in one week. I have lumped these activities together under a single rubric, “June London Book Fair,” in the lists below since the dealer, not the specific fair day and place, is the important point to record. My June rambles, which extended beyond the fairs to some two-dozen shops in London and the Cotswolds, combined with another shop-till-you-drop tour of London and Brighton in November, confirmed what I had suspected from recent auction prices. The upper-end of the Blake market—illuminated books, fine separate prints, good drawings—has soared in recent years, but the lower end has flattened out and, when adjusted for inflation, even declined. Perhaps the hardest-hit area is Blake Trust facsimiles. Ten years ago a copy of the 1951 facsimile of *Jerusalem* copy E fetched around $1200. You can buy a copy today for about the same money. Prices for books with Blake’s reproductive engravings have also drifted sideways. When dealers list such titles in their catalogues, followed by over-ambitious prices, the same volume tends to appear in several successive catalogues—a clear sign that the market is resisting attempts to budge it upwards. Christie’s has begun to place books with Blake’s commercial engravings in their South Kensington sales, reserved for lesser books than those offered in their major rooms on King Street. One brighter area, from a seller’s point of view, is the William Muir facsimiles of the illuminated books (see a few examples under Interesting Blakeana, below). They have become rare, and their handmade qualities are now appreciated.

Palmer dominates—qualitatively, if not quantitatively—the lists of Blake’s Followers. The venerable Bond Street firm of Agnew’s assembled a remarkable number of Palmer’s water colors, plus a late Shoreham-period oil, in the spring and early summer. These rarities were complemented by an outstanding collection of Palmer’s etchings, many in rare states and all but one or two printed with great care. Some of these impressions are among the finest I have ever seen. The prices (available on application) are correspondingly high.

Sotheby’s book department in London provided two interesting examples of how to botch auctions. In 1992, the department was brought an album of prints bearing several Blake signatures and small sketches (see the second item under Interesting Blakeana, below). This album was offered in the catalogue for Sotheby’s 14 December 1992 sale, with a modest enough estimate of £1000-1500, but was withdrawn before the sale. The plan was to re-offer the work with a more detailed description and a higher estimate. In fact the description of the work was little improved in Sotheby’s 19 July 1993 catalogue, but the estimate range was jacked up to £10,000-15,000. My London spies tell me that there was not a single bid in the room. This is a classic case of how over-eager pricing can kill a market. Sotheby’s made the mistake of assuming that a document from Blake’s early career—and a rather tattered and visually unattractive one at that—containing only signatures and small sketches can be priced in accord with Blake’s better original drawings or prints. As in all art collecting, aesthetic considerations have the final word. Fortunately, the volume was acquired in December 1993 by Michael Phillips, who is planning to publish a full study in due course.

At least Sotheby’s second error worked to the benefit of the purchaser. A lengthy omnibus catalogue of books to be offered over four days in June and July included a copy of
Thomas Commins, *An Elegy Set to Music* (illus. 10), well buried toward the end of the sale. The estimate, a mere £300-400, was less than the estimate placed on the previous lot, a copy of the Blake Trust facsimile of *The Book of Urizen* (£500-750). Surely the third known copy of Blake’s first unquestionably original book illustration was worth more than a facsimile published in 1958 in a printing of 526 copies. When I enquired about the estimate on the Commins, Sotheby’s told me that it was kept fairly low because of the pamphlet’s condition. True, Blake’s print on the cover sheet was amateurishly hand colored, the surface dust-stained, and the corners a little tattered. But the bibliographic condition was pristine—uncut and stitched as originally issued. Although the work brought twice the high estimate, more informed and aggressive marketing could have increased the price several times over. At least two potential bidders did not even know about the auction. The facsimile of *Urizen* failed to sell.

The year of all sales and catalogues in the following lists is 1993 unless indicated otherwise. The recorded prices include the purchaser’s surcharge for all auction sales, but not the 17.5% value-added tax levied on the surcharge in England. Late 1993 sales will be covered in the 1994 review. I am grateful for help in compiling this review to Kirstie Bain (expert bookperson of Pickering & Chatto), G. E. Bentley, Jr., David Bindman, Karen Blansfield, Carol Briggs (expert bookperson at Quaritch), Martin Butlin, Michael Campbell, Warren Dennis, Jay Dillon, Detlef W. Dörrbecker (my continental spy, also active in Hay-on-Wye), Jeni Jo La Belle, Thomas V. Lange (champion reader of catalogues), Raymond Lister, David Llewellyn, Nicholas Lott, Christopher Mendez, Felix de Marez Oyens, Christopher Powney, Jonathan Rendell, Justin Schiller, Maurice Sendak, Joseph Viscomo, David Weinglass, John Windle (now the leading dealer in Blake and his circle), Andrew Wyld, and Koji Yukiyama. Once again, Robert Schlosser’s expertise with a camera and Patricia Neill’s editorial assistance have been invaluable.

**ABBREVIATIONS**

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<td>BBA</td>
<td>Bloomsbury Book Auctions, London</td>
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<td>CNY</td>
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<td>CSK</td>
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<td>cat.</td>
<td>catalogue or sales list issued by a dealer (usually followed by a number or letter designation) or auction house (followed by the day and month of sale)</td>
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<td>Phillips Auctions, London</td>
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<td>SNY</td>
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<td>st(s).</td>
<td>state(s) of an engraving, etching, or lithograph</td>
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<td>Swann</td>
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**ILLUMINATED BOOKS**

*Jerusalem*, copy C. CL, 30 Nov., #3, from the Rinder collection, pls. 2, 4, 26, 32, 39, 41, 47, 100, and James Tregaskis’s bill of 2 April 1918 to Rinder illus. color, pls. 1 and 99 illus. on the cat. cover (£617,500). Seeillus. 1-2.

*Jerusalem*, pl. 6, design only, 14.5 x 16.2 cm., printed in blue and black, hand colored. CNY, 11 May, #85, sold from the collection of Dian Woodner and Andrea Woodner (formerly collections of Mrs. Jack Greenberg and Ian Woodner), illus. color ($156,500 on an estimate of $50,000-60,000 to a dealer acting for a private client). I believe that this is a record price for a print by a British artist.

*Jerusalem*, pl. 28, a posthumous impression printed in reddish-brown, trimmed to the upper design only. CL, 30 Nov., #4, mis-identified in the cat. as “Plate 25,” from the Rinder collection, illus. color (J. Windle for R. Essick, £2760). Seeillus. 3.

*The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, copy L, comprising pls. 25-27, “A Song of Liberty,” printed in black with a slight brown
Jerusalem
Chap. 2.

3. Jerusalem pl. 28, final (3rd?) st. White-line etching, a posthumous impression in reddish-brown ink on wove (Whatman?) paper trimmed to (and slightly within) the upper design, 10.3 x 15.5 cm. Probably printed by Frederick Tatham, c. 1831-33. Essick collection.

tone. CL, 30 Nov., #1, from the Rinder collection, pl. 27 illus. color with the brown tone emphasized, thus changing the color of the paper from off-white to buff (J. Windle for R. Essick, £32,200 on an estimate of £8000-12,000). See illus. 4-5.

Milton, pl. 38, 2nd st., printed in gray-black. CL, 30 Nov., #2, from the Rinder collection, wrongly described as "the only separate sheet [from Milton] recorded," illus. color (J. Windle for R. Essick, £62,000 on an estimate of £20,000-30,000). See illus. 6.

DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS


A Girl Painting (recto), A Woman Reading or Singing (verso), from the smaller Blake-Varley Sketchbook. Pencil, sheet 15.5 x 20.5 cm., Butlin #692.19-20. Acquired 1992 by David Bindman. Butlin attributes both drawings to Varley, but in my opinion both are by Blake. The woman portrayed in delicate profile on the recto might be Mrs. Blake.

Lady Macbeth and the Sleeping Duncan. Pen, gray and brown washes over pencil, 32.7 x 42.6 cm., Butlin #249. In my 1991 sales review (Blake 25 [1992]: 147), I reported that this drawing had been sold by Agnew's to a "private collector." Koji Yukiyama of the National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo, has looked into this matter on my behalf and discovered that the purchaser was the Koriyama City Museum of Art. As far as I am aware, this is the first Japanese institution to acquire a drawing or painting by Blake.

The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins. Water color, 40.9 x 34.6 cm., signed, c. 1825. Butlin #481. Sold early 1993 from the collection of the late Philip Hofer to a private American collector.

Wat Tyler. Pencil, 24.2 x 19.2 cm., leaf 66 from the larger Blake-Varley Sketchbook, a counterproof of leaf 65. Inscribed, probably by Varley, "Wat Tyler By Wm Blake, from his Spectre, as in the act of Striking the Tax Gatherer on the head, drawn Octr 30, 1819. 1st AM." Butlin #737. CL, 13 July, #7, illus. (£4830 to a British dealer, apparently for stock). Certainly a record for a counterproof of one of Blake's visionary heads. The new owner contacted at least one New York dealer and one New York auction house, apparently in the hope of turning a quick profit on the American market.

With Songs the Jovial Hinds Return from Plow, an illustration to Thornton's Virgil (Butlin #769.19). Previously listed in my 1992 sales review (Blake 26 [1993]: 142) as sold to Justin Schiller "acting for a private client." I can now reveal that the client was the artist and writer Maurice Sendak.

SEPARATE PLATES AND PLATES IN SERIES, INCLUDING PLATES EXTRACTED FROM LETTERPRESS BOOKS

"Beggar's Opera, Act III," Blake after Hogarth. The Print Room, Jan. cat. 10, unnumbered entry between #315 and 316, 4th st., heavily washed with some creases, trimmed within platemark at top (very reasonably priced at £50).

Blair, The Grave. Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #18, selected pls. from the 1808 quarto, "Christ Descending into the Grave" illus. (£38 each).

"Chaucers Canterbury Pilgrims." CNY, 11 May, #86, "late fourth state (of five), with parts of the faint drypoint inscriptions just visible," cream wove paper, tear into image, stains; with "Agnolo Brunelleschi Attacked by a Six-Footed Serpent" from Blake's Dante engravings, laid India, the Dante illus. ($6900 on an estimate of $2000-3000). John Windle, May cat. 15, #202.5th st., Sessler restrike, "excellent condition" ($8500).
Dante engravings. A. R. Heath, June London Book Fair, complete set, almost certainly the 1892 printing, Edwin Wolf’s copy, green morocco with the original label bound in (£25,000). See also first entry under “Chaucer’s Canterbury Pilgrims,” above.

“The Fall of Rosamond,” stipple etching/engraving after Stothard, 1783. Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #9, previously unrecorded impression, claimed to be “between states 1 and 2” but actually the 2nd st. color printed (pink, blue-green, brown), “with full margins beyond the platemark,” yet the illus. excludes the inscriptions below the image (“£3500—Sold” to the Tate Gallery). The only color-printed example of the 2nd st. known to me.

Gay’s Fables. Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #10-12, pls. 5, 12, and 4 from the 2nd ed., all illus. (£55, £85, and £85).

“Hiding of Moses” from Remember Me! Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #17, apparently from the 1825 issue, illus. (not priced; acquired by the Tate Gallery). CL, 30 Nov., #10, from the Rinder collection, printed crooked on the sheet, time-stained,illus. (£1955 on an estimate of £800-1000).

Job engravings. Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #15, title page from the published “Proof” issue, laid India, backing sheet with the Whatman 1825 watermark, illus. (£950); #16, pl. 5 from the 1874 printing, laid India, cut close to plate mark, illus. (£850). SL, 17 Feb., #190, complete set on laid India, apparently without the “Proof” inscription and thus the 1874 printing, some spotting, half morocco, inscribed on endpaper “to C.S.R. [probably Charles S. Ricketts] July 1909 from HL [a member of the Linnell family],” pl. 3 illus. (£5310 to Sims Reed on a ridiculously low estimate of £300-400); same copy offered by Sims Reed, April New York Book Fair ($18,500). The 19th Century Shop, June cat. 30, #4, published “Proof” issue, laid India, backing sheets with the Whatman Turkey Mill 1825 watermark, original terra cotta boards, printed label, from the collections of Anne Gilchrist and H. Bradley Martin, pl. 17 illus. color, giving the Indian a brownish hue (£850; acquired at auction in 1990 for £55,000 and offered in the same year for £95,000). SL, 14 June, #85, 1st issue without “Proof” inscription on Whatman Turkey Mill 1825 paper (the backing paper used for the “Proof” issue) rather than the usual paper lacking “Turkey Mill” in the watermark, pls. tipped onto stubs, trimmed to 36.7 x 26 cm., edges rubbed, 19th-century calf, rubbed, pl. 15 illus. (£27,600 on an estimate of £30,000-50,000); same copy, Bromer Booksellers, Oct. cat. 79, #1, pl. 14 illus. (£48,000). SL, 29 June, #261, pl. 4 only, on laid India but apparently without “Proof” inscription and thus from the printing of 1874, stain at right (£517); #262, pl. 6 only, same paper and printing as the previous lot, India lifting at lower left (£517). CL, 1 July, #197, 1st issue without the “Proof” inscription on Whatman 1825 paper, a few fox marks, cloth and paper boards with original printed label on front cover, price written in brown ink, binding worn, pl. 3 illus. (£17,250); probably same copy, Sims Reed Aug. cat., #6, “superb condition, completely unrestored” (£26,000). CL, 30 Nov., #11, 1st issue without the “Proof” inscrip-
5. *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, copy L, pls. 26-27 of “A Song of Liberty.” Relief etchings with white-line work, 14.8 x 10.3 cm. (pl. 26) and 15.2 x 10.4 cm. (pl. 27), printed in brown-black ink side-by-side on a sheet of laid paper 21.3 x 34.7 cm. showing a “C BALL” watermark. The position of the watermark in the fold running vertically through the middle of the sheet to form 2 leaves, the deckle edges at the bottom and on each side, and the cut edge at the top indicate that this is a half-sheet of foolscap writing paper (approx. 16 x 13 in.). This is the only recorded work by Blake on C BALL paper and, as far as I can determine, the only relief etchings of any sort on laid (as distinct from wove) paper. As Joseph Viscomi has shown in *Blake and the Idea of the Book*, Blake customarily proofed plates from his illuminated books in black ink. This copy of the *Marriage* fits that category, but it was also clearly printed as an independent pamphlet of 2 leaves, with pls. 25-26 printed on the recto and verso of the first leaf and pl. 27 on the recto of the second (verso blank). The pls. are carefully aligned with each other; all 3 are almost identically registered against the top edge of the sheet and against the side edges of their respective leaves. Pls. 26-27 were almost certainly placed in the press together and printed in a single turn through the rollers. As in conventional letterpress, the texts are not centered on each leaf but printed with a lower margin greater than the upper and the left margin greater than the right. Since this pamphlet was not printed for, or ever bound into, a copy of the *Marriage*, perhaps we should re-christen it as *A Song of Liberty* copy B. Untraced copy M of the *Marriage* might be designated copy A of *A Song of Liberty*. It too consisted of pls. 25-27, apparently printed on conjunct leaves, but may have been in an earlier st, because it lacked “the 8-line Chorus at the end” (according to the Linnell sale cat., Christie’s London, 15 March 1918, #198). Essick collection.

19.7 cm., from the Rinder collection, illus. color (£58,700 on an estimate of £20,000-30,000).

Stedman, *Narrative*, Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #13-14, pls. 15 and 16 from the 1st ed., both illus. (£175 each).

“Upton, James.” Impression of the 1st st. acquired by the British Museum in June 1989. See the Appendix, below, for details about this impression.

Virgil, *Pastorals*, CL, 30 Nov., #5, cuts 2-5, 1st proof state before the woodblock was cut and trimmed, from the Rinder collection, illus. color (N. W. Lott for Maurice Sendak, £59,800 on an estimate of £10,000-15,000), see illus. 8-9; #6, the set of 17 wood engravings, Linnell impressions on thin paper, from the Rinder collection, cuts 2-5 illus. (N. W. Lott for stock, £4600); #7, 14 of Blake's wood engravings (lacking the 7th, 12th, and 13th cuts), Linnell impressions on thin paper, with duplicate impressions of the 3rd, 6th, and 9th cuts, from the Rinder collection, cut 1 illus. (J. Windle for stock, £2530).

LETTERPRESS BOOKS WITH ENGRAVINGS BY AND AFTER BLAKE


Allen, *New and Improved Roman History*, 1798. Maggs, June private offer, quarter calf (£400).


Bible. *The Protestant's Family Bible* (1780-81). Sterling Books, Sept. private offer, slight stains on preliminary leaves, contemporary calf worn, covers detached (£125). The only copy I’ve seen on the market in 25 years of Blake collecting, Bentley 514 lists only his own and the British Museum copy.

Blair, *The Grave*. Pickering and Chatto, Feb. cat. 701, #8, 1813 quarto, some foxing and browning, with the bookplate of John...
Sparrow, red cloth binding, gilt lettering on cover, signed by Heilborn, Breslau, rebacked, John Sparrow’s copy with his bookplate (price at $1750); same copy and price, Feb. cat. 703, #5, pl. 9 illus.; same copy and price, Sept. cat. 710, #9.

This appears to be the original binding on the volume. Rudolph Ackermann, the publisher of the 1813 ed., may have sent some unbound sheets to Germany for binding and sale on the Continent. Ackermann was born in Stolberg, Saxony, in 1764 and set up his book and print business in London in 1795.

Harrington Bros., June private offer, 1813 quarto, cloth rebacked (£300). Bernard Shapero, June private offer, 1813 quarto, quarter calf over marbled boards (£475). BBA, 3 June, #312, 1808 quarto, extensive spotting and browning, contemporary calf, covers detached (R. Clark, £121).


Chaucer, Poetical Works, 1783, in Bell’s Poets. Simon Finch, June London Book Fair, complete set of Bell’s Poets, 109 vols., fine contemporary calf (£6000); same copy and price, Sept. cat. 20, #10B. BBA, 12 Aug., #122, 105 (of 109) vols., with Cooke’s pl. rather than Blake’s, contemporary calf (Poetry Bookshop, £198); sold by the Poetry Bookshop in single-author sets—see listings under Mortimer and Stothard.

Commins, An Elegy Set to Music, 1786. SL, 6 July, #1525, stitched through 3 stab-holes as issued, original (?) thread still present, uncut, the cover pl. by Blake hand tinted, dust-stained, edges a bit frayed (£920 on an estimate of £300-400 to Quaritch for R. Essick). See illus. 10.

Cumberland, Thoughts on Outline, 1796. Phillip Pirages, Feb. cat. 25, #40, uncut and unopened in original boards, spine repaired, inscribed “From the Author” on leaf preceding the title page, some foxing and dampstaining (reduced from $2250 in earlier cats. to $1800); same copy, May cat. 26, #118, pls. 2, 6 illus. (back up to $2250); same copy, Nov. cat. 28, #75, pl. 2 illus. ($2250). Robert Clark, June cat. 32, #74, one pl. “scrapped by a prudish owner to emasculate a male figure,” recent quarter morocco (£350).


*Classical Compositions*, 1870. Swann, 9 Sept., #141, contemporary leather rubbed (not sold; estimate $300-500).

*Compositions from ... Hesiod*, 1817. Phillip Pirages, Feb. cat. 25, #41, original boards reaced, label on front cover, some browning, morocco-backed slipcase (reduced from $1600 in earlier cats. to $1250). Swann, 9 Sept., #140, with Flaxman's designs for the *Iliad* (1805), the *Odyssey* (1805), and *Aeschylus* (1831), all with light to moderate foxing, bound together in morocco (£220).


*Sepulchral Monuments*, 1786. Carmarthen Books, June London Book Fair, 2 vols. in 5, 1786-96, contemporary russia (£1150); sold to the dealer Robert Frew, who also offered the vols. at the Fair); same copy, Robert Frew, Aug. cat. 1, #277 (£1500).


*Ballads*, 1805. Swann, 4 Nov., #33, light soiling, half-title and 2 other leaves "possibly supplied from another copy," sts. of pls. not indicated, 19th-century morocco (£302 on an estimate of $400-600).


*Life of Romney*, 1809. SL, 17 Feb., #155, lacking 3 pls. but with Blake's, with 8 other vols. on British art (Grosvenor, £253). Edna Whiteson, June London Book Fair, large-paper issue, 19th-century quarter calf, marbled boards (£350). This is only the 2nd large-paper copy I've seen. The large-paper issue is distinguished by the "1807" watermark on text leaves; the small-paper issue shows a "RYE MILL / 1807" watermark (except for the final gathering, with an "1804" watermark). Further, the distance between the gutter and the left margin of the text on rectos is 5.1 cm. in large-paper copies, whereas the distance is 5.7 cm. in small-paper copies. Howes, June London Book Fair, small-paper issue, uncut at tail and fore-edge, trimmed and gilt at head to an overall height of 29 cm., 19th-century half morocco (£250); same copy and price, Nov. cat. 260, #246. CL, 10 Sept., #81, uncut, original boards rebacked with cloth, original printed spine label retained, from the collection of Morchard Bishop; with Hayley, *Life of Cowper*, apparently 1st ed. with the supplement, 4 vols. in 3, spotted, contemporary half morocco, 2 covers detached (£140).

*Little Tom the Sailor*, broadsheet, 1800, hand colored by Blake. Sold March to Maurice Sendak by Justin Schiller, in whose private collection this copy had resided since 1983.


*Works*. Appelfeld Gallery, addendum to March cat. 52, no item #, undated Baldwin and Cradock issue, half morocco rebacked ($2500). BBA, 20 May, #125, undated Baldwin and Cradock issue, no mention of Blake's pl., some leaves torn, some spotting, contemporary half morocco worn (Erlini, £715). Robert Vaughan, June private offer, undated Baldwin and Cradock issue printed by Norman, Blake's pl. in the 5th st., quarter calf over marbled boards in unusually fine condi-

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tion (£650). SL, 29 June, #272, title page dated 1822 (but possibly the Quaritch reprint of c. 1880), half morocco, spine damaged (£920). CL, 3 Nov., #96, undated Baldwin and Cradock issue, no mention of Blake’s pl., some spotting and soiling, contemporary half morocco (£1380). Titles, Nov. private offer, apparently an undated Baldwin and Cradock issue, 116 leaves of pls., modern half calf (£1400).


Josephyus, Works. Harrington Bros., June private offer, Bentley’s final (E) issue, contemporary calf worn (£180). John Trotter, June London Book Fair, Bentley’s 2nd (B) issue, modern half calf and marbled boards (£187.50).


Malkin, Father’s Memoirs of His Child. 1806. Pickering and Chatto, Jan. cat. 701, #7, pls. lightly foxed, uncut in modern cloth, Blake’s pl. illus. (£550); same copy and price, Feb. cat. 703, #35. Richard Budd, June cat. 9, #52, original boards uncut, new spine (£500). Howes, Nov. cat. 260, #247, 19th-century half calf rubbed (£525).


Novelist’s Magazine. John Windle, May cat. 15, #203, vols. 10-11 only (Richardson, Sir Charles Grandison), 1783, 1st st. of Blake’s pls., contemporary calf repaired (£675).

Olivier, Fencing Familiarized, 1780. Swann, 4 Feb., #287, half morocco (£165).

Rees, Cyclopaedia, 1820. Francis Edwards, July cat. 1247, #618, complete in 45 vols., half calf over marbled boards, some hinges weak (£3500).

Salzmann, Elements of Morality. BBA, 1 April, #52, 3 vols. in 1 and 3 dated 1792, vol. 2 dated 1791, 50 pls., frontispiece partly hand colored, 2 pls. in vol. 2 inserted from another copy, contemporary sheep “almost uniform” (meaning not uniform?); worn (R. Clark, £352); same copy, Robert Clark, June cat. 32, #75 (£650). CL, 10 Sept., #82, J. Sharpe ed. of c. 1815, 2 vols., lacking the pl. numbered “40,” contemporary half morocco worn, with Gay, Fables, 1811, 2 vols. in 1, spotted, modern boards (£200).

Scott, Poetical Works, 1782. Bookpress, March cat. 68, #163, contemporary calf (£375). Simon Finch, June London Book Fair, presentation inscription from Scott to John Hoole, quarter calf (£380); same copy and price, Sept. cat. 20, #154, and Nov. cat. 21, #288, Holleyman & Treacher, Nov. private offer, contemporary calf, front cover loose (£250).


Stuart and Revett, Antiquities of Athens, 1787-94. SL, 21 June, #224, vols. 1-3 only, “fine neoclassical bindings of contemporary red morocco designed by James Stuart,” bindings illus. color, from the collection of Alan G. Thomas (Maggs, £89,500—a record price because of the bindings).


Virgil, Pastorals, 1821. Simon Finch, Nov. private offer, 2 vols., original sheep, with the 1814 Illustrations of the School-Virgil, modern calf (acquired at an undisclosed price by D. Heald).


Wollstonecraft, Original Stories from Real Life, 1791. Swann, 4 March, #299, no indication of the sts. of the pls., contemporary (original!) sheep rebacked, cloth folding case (£1870). James Burmester, June London Book Fair, 2nd sts. of the pls., contemporary calf (£2500). James Cummins, June cat. 39, #26, no indication of sts. of the pls., contemporary calf rebacked (£4000). SL, 19 July, #233, no indications of the sts. of the pls., contemporary sheep worn (C. R. Johnson, £1840 on an estimate of £700-900).
7. "The Man Sweeping the Interpreter's Parlor." White-line metal cut (perhaps a combination of Blake's "Woodcut on Pewter" and "Woodcut on Copper" techniques), unique impression of the 1st st., 7.9 x 16 cm., printed in brown-black ink on a wove sheet, 12.3 x 21.2 cm., showing an E & P (Edmeads and Pine) watermark. The ink is dense and very grainy, with some separation between pigment and oil that produced small bubbles between the sweeper and the right margin. Christie's sale catalogue of 30 Nov. 1993, #8, suggests that the differences in presswork between this impression and the 2nd st. impression also in the sale offer evidence for dating the 1st st. to the mid-1790s. The brown-black ink is similar to the one Blake used for *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, copy L (illus. 4-5), but more studies will have to be made of Blake's inks before we can rule out his use of this type in the 1820s when certainly the 2nd st., and perhaps also the 1st st., of "The Man Sweeping" were executed. Photo courtesy of Christie's London.

Young, *Night Thoughts*, 1797, uncolored. CSK, 2 Dec. 1992, #221, lacking letterpress title page, preliminary leaves, and Explanation leaf, some leaves shaved and others repaired, contemporary half calf worn, title to Night the First illus. (bought-in at £750 on an estimate of £1500-2000). Heritage Book Shop, March handlist for the New York Book Fair, #9, with the Explanation leaf, first few leaves foxed, full leather, front hinge weak ($7500); same copy and price, May handlist for the Chicago Book Fair and June handlist for the London Book Fair. E. Joseph, June private offer, with the Explanation leaf, a few pls. trimmed at lower edge, quarter calf over marbled boards (£6800).

**INTERESTING BLAKEANA**

Nicholas Beatrizet, "A Standing Man with Arms Folded," unfinished engraving after a figure in Michelangelo's *Crucifixion of St. Peter*. SL, 29 June, #76, only recorded impression of the full pl. including the large blank area on the right, illus. (not sold on an estimate of £4000-6000). Possibly the basis of Blake's etching/engraving, "Joseph of Arimathea among the Rocks of Albion" (1st st. 1773).

Annibale Carracci, *Historia del testamento vecchio dipinto in Roma nel Vaticano da Raffaello Urbino e intagliata in rame da Sisto Badalocchio et Giovanni Lanfranchi* (Rome, 1698), oblong octavo approx. 17.2 x 23 cm., bound in worn vellum. A sun with a human face and "W Blake/1773" inscribed into the vellum with a sharp instrument (an etching needle?), leaf 18 recto inscribed in pencil "W Blake 1773," and three pencil sketches on leaves 5 recto (slight drawing, rubbed, of the head of God based on the facing print), 9 recto (a human leg, based on the leg of Adam in the facing print), and 10 recto (outline of a human leg). SL, 19 July, #198, inscription on leaf 18 recto illus. (not sold on an estimate of £10,000-15,000). My request for photos of the Blake signatures or drawings was denied. The auction catalogue failed to point out a few salient features, including the full title with its reference to Raphael. After a brief engraved and/or etched text, the tattered volume is an album of fairly crude prints by Sisto Badalocchio and Giovanni Lanfranco of Carracci's copies of the frescoes after designs by Raphael in the Vatican Loggias (often called "Raphael's Bible"). The group includes all five of the prints after Raphael (2 misattributed on the plates to "Rubens") that Blake engraved for *The Protestant's Family Bible* (c. 1781). Several prints, including "Lot's Escape" (pl. 2 in *The Protestant's Family Bible*), show six brown spots (just outside each corner and top and bottom center) that were probably created by glue used to affix tracing paper over the prints so that they could be copied. Thus, the volume may have been used by Blake as the source for his plates after Raphael. However, the prints in this album, like the frescoes and all other engravings of them I have seen, are in a horizontal format, whereas Blake's
plates have a vertical major axis. The volume may also have been an important influence on a good many of Blake's original compositions. The drawing of a leg on leaf 9 recto was executed with some skill and includes slight touches of the delicate hatching found in Blake's apprentice drawings of the tomb effigies in Westminster Abbey (see Butlin #22, 25, 40, 43, 46, 47). If indeed Blake owned this album early in his life, as I think very probable, then he had direct knowledge of books with etched and engraved texts long before he began creating his own. See also Commins under Letterpress Books, above, for another etched or engraved text very probably known to Blake before 1788.


Winckelmann, *Reflections*, trans. Fuseli, 1765. For copies of this work, which Blake may have owned (see Bentley #751), see under Fuseli, below.

Chatterton, *Poems*, 3rd ed., 1778. Simon Finch, Sept. cat. 20, #27, contemporary russia (£120). Blake's copy of this edition, with his signature but without further annotation, is in the Keynes Collection, Cambridge University Library.

Joanna Southcott, an extensive collection of manuscripts and printed materials relating to her sect, 1790s-1840s. SL, 20 July, #412, 1 broadsheet illus. (the London bookdealer Christopher Edwards, £4140).

"Stonehenge Medal." Silver, 5 cm. diameter, by T. Wyon, Sr. Richard Hatchwell, April cat. 29, #99 (£1200). Hatchwell describes this curiosity as follows: "On the obverse a view of Stonehenge within an open wreath upon which appears STONEHENG 1796 on a label. Above is a Druid's head within a wreath, over an inscription on a ribbon, TANTUM RELIGIO POTUIT (a quotation from Lucretius, 'So great was the power of religion'). On the reverse, a circular calendar with druidical signs representing the orrery of the druids, the words ORRERY OF THE DRUIDS surrounded by a plan of the reconstructed monument. A label above bears the words DUM TACENT CLAMANT (a quotation from Cicero, 'While silent, they shout
9. Virgil wood engravings, cuts 2-5, 2nd proof st. in black ink prior to the division and trimming of the designs. Image 15.3 x 8.7 cm. on a wove sheet 16 x 9.1 cm. Rosenwald Collection, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. A comparison to the 1st proof st. (illus. 8) shows that Blake has cut into the woodblock to create more white lines and areas. Among the more readily identifiable reworked passages are the hill to the left of the left figure in the top design (note the small white patches suggesting distant vegetation), the sky right of the figure's raised left forearm in the design second from the top (the sun's rays have been extended closer to the arm), the sky around the running shepherd in the design third from the top (many fine black lines have been cut through to lighten this area), and in the sky and on the left figure's right hip in the bottom design. The two other known proofs of this untrimmed block (British Museum; Hofer Collection, Houghton Library, Harvard University) are also in this 2nd proof st.

aloud'). Beneath are the words CHOIR GAUR. Signed by Wyon on the obverse, immediately beneath the view of Stonehenge. Enclosed in a blue mock-leather case.' Hatchwell further points out that, in an article published in the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine no. 147 (1927), Capt. B. H. Cunningham claimed that the medal was designed by Blake, based on a letter from the "Corresponding Councillor of the 'Druid Universalist Council!'" Mr. T. Ireland, who stated that the medal was designed by Blake, and had been issued by the A.D.U.B. (An Druid Uileach Braithreacas, or Church of the Universal Bond!)." I propose an alternative attribution: might the medal have been designed by T. Wyon?


A set of 12 silver buttons and 4 small silver buckles, apparently issued in 1809 or 1810 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary (1810) of the reign of George III. Housed in a leather case (as originally issued!), approx. 14.5 x 20 cm., with an engraving on paper, signed "[George?] Noble sculp.,” of George III and Queen Charlotte set into the inside upper cover. Two of the buckles are dated “1809” on their faces. The round buttons, each approx. 3 cm. in diameter, are decorated with incised portraits inscribed with the names Edmund Burke, Nelson, Queen Charlotte and George III (on one button), Wellington, Horace Walpole, Adam Smith, James Watt, the Earl of Chatham, Charles James Fox, Warren Hastings, William Wilberforce,—and William Blake! The portrait of Blake is clearly based on the painting by Thomas Phillips, exhibited in May 1807, or the engraving of it by Louis Schiavonetti, first published in the 1808 edition of Robert Blair's The Grave illustrated with Blake’s designs. Why Blake was included in this distinguished company in 1809-10 remains a complete mystery to me. I can find no evidence that Phillips painted portraits of all the other worthies included, but perhaps all were portrayed in paintings recently exhibited or published as engravings and Blake was included by a fluke. Tender Buttons (a shop selling buttons new and old), New York, July private
offer ($6000 for the set). Exhibited in August 1993 at The Athenaeum, La Jolla, California, as part of the collection of Diana Epstein and Millicent Safro. No photos obtainable; for a color illus. of the set in its box, see Epstein and Safro, Buttons (New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1991) 60.


Moon, Boys, and Graves, A Catalogue of Engravings, 1829. BBA, 30 Sept., #75, contemporary morocco-backed boards worn, with a manuscript catalogue of “Engraved Portraits” (Grosvenor Prints, £396). This sale catalogue includes (65) Blake’s engraving after Opie, “Romeo and Juliet, Act IV. Scene V,” originally executed for Boydell’s ed. of Shakespeare but here offered as a separate pl. (“Prints, 4s. Proofs, 7s.6d.”).


Southey, The Doctor, 1834-47. Marlborough Rare Books, Jan. cat. 149, #217, 7 vols., original cloth, vols. 1-2 rebacked (£850). With Blake references in vols. 6-7 of 1847 (although the work’s real claim to fame is the first publication of “The Three Bears”).

Cunningham, Cabinet Gallery of Pictures, pub. Nicol, Hodgson & Graves, 1836. Colin Page, Nov. private offer, 2 vols., original gilt-stamped cloth (£75). Contains a brief anecdote about Blake (1:11-13); this ed. not in Bentley.


Blake, Poetical Sketches, published Pickering, 1868. Gekoski, April cat., #36, with a presentation inscription to W. M. Rossetti from his publisher “Messrs Bell & Sons” and the signature of E. Madox Brown, spine label defective, hinges split at extremities (£450).

11. "The Weather-House and Cowper's Tame Hares." Etching/engraving by Blake after his own design, 15.2 x 11.6 cm., for William Hayley, Life, and Posthumous Writings, of William Cowper (1803-04) 2: 415. Essick collection. Only the third impression of the first state known to me (the others are in a copy of the book in the Bodleian Library and a disbound impression in the Huntington Library). In the 2nd st., the diagonal lines indicating rain have been extended closer to the man's back and left shoulder; additional crossing strokes have been added to the clouds above the man. The melancholy demeanor of the man and the pastoral setting for the woman recall Blake and his wife Catherine during their pastoral interlude at Felpham under Hayley's sometimes burdensome patronage. These figures might also suggest the distinction between male Spectre and female Emanation in the poems Blake composed during or shortly after his stay in Felpham.

Charles Ricketts, original pen and ink drawing for the frontispiece to his ed. of The Book of Thel, 1897. Heightened with white, in-itialed, 8.6 x 8.6 cm. Ian Hodgkins, Nov. cat. 71, #189, illus. (£1600).

Quaritch, Catalogue of Rare and Valuable Books, No. 218 (Nov. 1902), Huntington Library, May sale of duplicates ($15). The cat. includes, #261, Satan's Triumph over Eve, "an original Drawing in water-colours" (£42); and #262, "My soul cleaveth to the Dust, an engraving by G. I. F. Tupper, from Blake's design, 18 1/2 by 14 1/2 in. Printed for Private Distribution, 1874," further described as a "facsimile of one of the unpublished drawings" for Young's Night Thoughts (7s.6d.). #261 is Satan Exulting over Eve in John Craxton's collection (Butlin #291); this Quaritch cat. listing is earlier than the first (No. 228, March 1904) cited in the provenance given by Butlin. An impression of the Tupper engraving is in the Rosenbach Foundation, Philadelphia (Bentley 646).

Illustrations to Thornton's Pastorals of Virgil ... |: Enlarged Facsimiles in Platinotype from the Scarce Original Edition by Frederick H. Evans, 1912. CL, 10 Sept., #8, Evans's own copy with his bookplate, "one of two unnumbered presentation copies," contemporary half morocco (Justin Schiller, £600 on an estimate of £100-150).

An archive of Blakeana, about 300 items, assembled by the Blake collector Frank Rinder, c. 1900-30, with some later items added by one or more other accumulators. Mostly articles from periodicals, letters to editors, and reviews from British newspapers, but also including clippings from auction and dealers' catalogues, authors' proofs, letters, prospectuses, and exhibition catalogues. Acquired privately by R. Essick and D. W. Dorrbecker in August.

Fine Art Society, Ltd., London. Spring Exhibition of Early English Water-Colours and Drawings, sale catalogue, n.d. (c. 1950?). Fine Art Catalogues, Oct. private offer (£6). This cat., not noted in Butlin, includes, as #31 and 45 for £600 each, Blake's St. Paul Shaking off the Viper (Butlin #509) and Jephthah Met by his Daughter (Butlin #450). Both water colors were acquired by the Fine Art Society at the Graham Robertson sale, CL, 22 July 1947, #46 and 11 (£462 and £483 respectively). By today's standards, these are exceedingly modest mark-ups.

BLAKE'S CIRCLE AND FOLLOWERS

Works are listed under artists' names in the following order: untitled paintings and drawings sold in groups, single paintings and drawings, letters and manuscripts, separate plates, books by (or with plates by or after) the artist.

BARRY, JAMES


"King Lear," lithograph. SL, 29 June, #249, on the original support sheet with aquatint border, from the collection of C. A. Lennox-Boyd (not sold; possibly withdrawn).


CALVERT, EDWARD

Group of 6 wood engravings from the Memoir, 1893, Lott & Gerrish, April cat.: #8, "The Ploughman" (£1000); #9, "The Cider Feast" (£1000); #10, "The Brook" (£375); #11, "The Lady with the Rooks" (£300); #12, "The Return Home" (£375); #13, "The Chamber Idyll" (£3500—probably a record asking price for any print from the Memoir).


"The Return Home" and "Shepherd and Sheep" (meaning the lithograph, "Ideal Pastoral Life"?), both described as "wood engravings." CSK, 26 Aug., #215 (£82.50).

S. Calvert, Memoir of Edward Calvert, 1893. Lott & Gerrish, April cat., #7, no description of binding or condition but apparently with all the original prints (£8000).

FLAXMAN, JOHN

A folio of 16 early drawings, pen and gray or brown wash or pencil, various sizes. SL, 15 July, #69, 2 drawings of a muscular male on one sheet illus. (Christopher Powney, £1130). See illus. 12.

Classical Study (man and woman holding hands, another woman filling a goblet held by the man) attributed to Flaxman. Pen and wash, 17 x 31.2 cm. Family Album Books, Sept. Washington Book Fair (£4000).


Our Saviour. Pencil drawing, 18.4 x 15.2 cm., inscribed with the title in ink and with a large capital letter "F" upper left. Christopher Powney, May private offer (£1250). The style of the draughtsmanship is not characteristic of Flaxman. The conception of the face, pictured full-face, is similar to what we find in Blake's Visionary Heads.

Study for a Funereal Monument. Pencil, 17 x 24.8 cm. CL, 13 July, #22 (not sold; estimate £200-300).

Dante illustrations, 1807. Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #69, original green cloth, "The Giants" illus. (£120). Robert Clark, June cat. 32, #172, some foxing and minor dampstaining, original cloth rebacked, worn (£150).

Dante, La Divina Commedia, 3 vols., Vallardi, c. 1802. Nikolaus Weissert, Jan. cat. 53, #53 (DM850).

Homer, Iliad and Odyssey, trans. Sotheby, 1833. Blackwell's, 12. John Flaxman, Sketch of a Young Man and Woman. Pencil, 18.5 x 15 cm., part of a group of early Flaxman drawings datable to the early 1780s and associated with the Mathew circle in which Blake also participated. Inscribed top left "F" (apparently the mark of a previous owner, also found on Flaxman's portrait sketches of A. S. and Harriet Mathew), bottom left "I. W." (probably Iolo Williams, a previous owner). Might the young man be Blake? The eyes are right, but the nose is not (Blake was a "Snubby," as he thought Jesus Christ to have been—see E 695). Who might the woman be? Catherine Blake, William's wife, had a slightly Roman nose, clearly evident on this woman; but she seems to be far too grand a lady, and perhaps too old, to be Mrs. Blake in the early 1780s. The woman in the sketch looks nothing like Flaxman's drawing of Harriet Mathew (see the reproduction in G. E. Bentley, Jr., Blake Records [Oxford: Clarendon P, 1969], pl. V—although I'm slightly suspicious that this portrait of a young girl is really a Mathew daughter). Photo courtesy of Christopher Powney.


Homer, Sujets de l'Iliade, Dufresne, 1803. Nikolaus Weissert, Jan. cat. 53, #54, with the Dufresne ed. of the Odyssey designs (DM850).


Odyssey illustrations, 1793. SL, 28 June, #362, spotted, modern half morocco (not sold on an estimate of £300-400).
13. Samuel Palmer, *Ploughing with Oxen, with a Village in the Distance*. Water color over pencil, 9.1 x 15.2 cm., on wove Whatman-type paper. Essick collection. The catalogue for Agnew's March-April 1993 exhibition of *English Watercolours and Drawings*, #40, cites Raymond Lister's dating of this work to “c. 1869-70” and his associating it with #652-54 in Lister, *Catalogue Raisonné of the Works of Samuel Palmer* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1988). These works of 1869-70 show some similarities in motif and setting with *Ploughing with Oxen*, but the techniques they exhibit are very different. Rather than transparent washes quickly applied over a loose pencil sketch, as in the work reproduced here, Lister #652-54 (like so much of Palmer's late work) were carefully worked up in stipple with the point of the brush and have passages in body color and/or gum to increase opacity and color density. These differences are not the only reasons for dating *Ploughing with Oxen* much earlier, during Palmer's honeymoon in Italy Nov. 1837 to Nov. 1839. The arrangement of buildings in the town is very similar to *A Welsh Town in Late Twilight* (Lister #268, dated to 1836). Both designs include a conical roof that Lister suggests in the Agnew's catalogue is a typically British oat house. Yet the mountain landscape in *Ploughing with Oxen*, as well as the red (tile?) roofs in the city, suggest a continental locale. Compare particularly the towered (and very probably imaginary) city similarly placed among hills in *Italian Landscape* (Lister #319, dated to 1838). The high mountains in *Ploughing with Oxen* are colored blue and seem more Alpine than British. Clouds rise from a lake on the right, an effect common on Lake Como (Joe Viscorini tells me). There are strong parallels between *Ploughing with Oxen* and *The Forum, Rome* (Lister #281, dated to 1837; see the color reproduction in Lister, *The Paintings of Samuel Palmer* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1985) pl. 40). These two works share very free underdrawing still visible beneath the tinting, much the same palette, and an almost identical handling of the slenderest trees on the right, rendered in light brown wash without underdrawing in both compositions. The inscription on the verso of the drawing reproduced here (see illus. 14) also supports an Italian context. Documentary evidence for Palmer's interest, during his journey to Italy, in compositions of this sort is provided by his recollective letter of 28 Oct. 1838 to Samuel Giles: "I shall not easily forget some grand old fortified and cathedral towns near the Swiss boundaries of France. We had just a glimpse of their grey fanes and mouldering battlements before we entered for the night, and left them before daylight in the morning; which, when we looked back, we saw glittering upon them in the valleys beneath. Sometimes the morning mist filled up the vales and plains like an ocean with its friths and bays; while the rising sun, striking upon the island-like summits and mountains, fired with living gold here and there an ancient village or city on their glowing ridges. Sometimes what seemed to be sky opened and disclosed a patriarchal village nestled among the pastoral downs..." (Lister, ed., *The Letters of Samuel Palmer* (Oxford: Clarendon P, 1974) 1: 231-32). See also Palmer's letter of 15 January 1839 to members of the Linnell family: "...it is incumbent on us [Palmer and his wife] to get studies of some of the most picturesque figures—and of the Roman oxen—superior to any others—and pure remnants of ancient pastoral and agricultural life" (*Letters* 1: 271). All the above considerations lead me to date the drawing between late 1837 and early 1838. In correspondence, Lister has substantially agreed with this redating but suggests that the water color may be one of the studies of oxen mentioned in a summer 1839 letter by Palmer (see Lister #338).
FUSELI, HENRY

**Male Nude Seated Against a Wall.** Pencil and gray ink over traces of pencil, 11 x 17.5 cm. SL, 11 Nov., #30, illus. (£1150).

**Odysseus Threatening Circe.** Pencil, pen and brown ink, 22.5 x 19.2 cm. CL, 30 March, #35, from the collection of Paul Grinke, illus. (£450).

**Scene from Milton's Comus (recto); Figure Study (verso).** Pen, pencil gray wash, 30.7 x 38.4 cm., recto a preliminary for the lost painting, *The Rout of Comus*, CL, 9 Nov., #11, both sides illus. (not sold on an over-ambitious estimate of £15,000-25,000).

**Scene from Shakespeare.** Pencil, pen, gray wash, 19.1 x 16.2 cm. Spink, May cat., #35, illus. (£6,500). Previously sold CL, 14 April 1992, #23, entitled *An Old Woman Wearing a Rosary Cursing a Seated Man*, illus. (£4400, apparently to Spink). David Weinglass has kindly informed me that the subject is actually Eleanor berating the Duke of Gloucester from Shakespeare's *Henry VI*, pt. 2, act 1, scene 2.

**Siegfried's First Arrival at Worms.** Pen and gray ink, gray wash, 31 x 21.5 cm., datable to c. 1805. SL, 11 Nov., #47, illus. (not sold; estimate £5000-7000).

**The Stoning of St. Stephen.** Pen and brown and gray wash, 19.9 x 31.8 cm., signed and dated 1777. CL, 13 July, #9, illus. (£2990).

"Queen Catherine's Dream," stipple engraving by Bartolozzi. CSK, 4 Aug., #403, color printed, cut close, stained (£90).

"The Witches," engraving by Tomkins, 1809. Christopher Mendez, June private offer, platemark showing all around, printed in dark brown and light brown on faces, hands, and the moth (£300).

"Woman at a Window," lithograph. SL, 29 June, #251, 1st st., detached from original support sheet, some defects, with another impression, 2nd st., also detached, some defects (not sold; possibly withdrawn).

**Bell's British Theatre.** PAL, 10 Dec. 1992, #17, 33 vols., no dates given, dampstained, contemporary half roan worn (not sold on an estimate of £80-120); 18 Feb., #72, 19 vols., 1780(?), later tree calf rebacked (£400).


Darwin, *Temple of Nature*, 1803. SL, 11 Dec. 1992, #70, original boards uncut, cloth case (not sold on an estimate of £500-700). Deighton, Bell, March cat. 260, #101, modern half calf over the original boards, slight spotting to pls. (£300). Sotheran's, Nov. private offer, tall copy, contemporary calf (£450).

**Homer, Odyssey,** 1806. Robert Frew, June London Book Fair, 6 vols. in 3, some dated 1813, contemporary calf (£150).


**Pilkinson, Dictionary of Painters,** revised by Fuseli, 1805. Grant & Shaw, April cat. 17, #74, David Wilkie's copy with his signature, contemporary calf backed with roan (£100).

**Shakespeare, Plays,** Stockdale ed., 1807. Robert Vaughan, June private offer, 7 vols., perhaps some plates missing, contemporary morocco gilt extra (£1450).

**Thomson, The Seasons,** 1802. Robert Clark, June cat. 32, #173, large- paper copy with the pls. before title inscriptions, minor foxing, contemporary calf rebacked (£58).


**Young, Catalogue of the Celebrated Collection of... Angerstein,** 1823. Ursus Books, April cat. 170, #5, roan spine over boards (a record at £1250).

LINNELL, JOHN

**Carrying Wheat.** Oil, 49 x 63 cm., signed and dated 1862. SL, 10 Nov., #105, illus. color (£10,350).

**Extensive River Landscape.** Pencil, 12 x 17.8 cm., signed and dated Sept. 1814. CSK, 17 Feb., #58, with a drawing by Varley (£85).

**Kensington Gardens, London.** Water color, 10.5 x 14 cm., signed and dated 1812. SL, 11 Nov., #108, illus. color (£35,600 on an estimate of £6000-8000). I cannot explain this extraordinary price.

On the Road from Harlech to Barmouth, Wales. Water color, 7 x 28 cm., inscribed with title. SL, 3 Feb., #127 (not sold on an estimate of £800-1200).

**The Piper.** Oil, 71 x 99 cm., signed and dated 1878. SL, 3 Feb., #427, illus. (not sold on an estimate of £1500-2000).

**Portrait of Edward Sheppard.** Oil, 32.5 x 25.5 cm., signed and dated 1823. SL, 12 May, #15, illus. (£1725).

**Portrait of John Hose.** Oil, 25 x 20 cm., signed and dated 1817. SL, 10 Nov., #72, illus. color (£3450 on an estimate of £1500-
14. Palmer, verso of the watercolor in illus. 13. Probably an alternative version of the design on the recto. Although little more than a doodle, this pencil sketch reveals the sort of rapid and energetic underdrawing lying beneath the watercolor on the recto. The Italian words “Vitto” (food) and “croce” (cross) are written sideways on two lines in the lower right corner. The number top right is very probably a later annotation by a dealer or collector.

2000). The high price may have been occasioned by the fact that the painting was in a frame made by the artist’s father, James Linnell.

Portrait of a Lady and Portrait of a Gentleman. Oil, each 43 x 34 cm., one signed and dated 1834. Sotheby’s Billingshurst, 2 June, #381, the gentleman illus. (no price record).

Portrait of Lady Lyndhurst. Oil, 39 x 33 cm., signed. SL, 10 Nov., #73, with 3 pencil sketches by Linnell, painting illus. color (£745).

Portrait of Thomas Hill. Pencil, black and red chalk heightened with white, 11 1/4 x 10 in. Richard Hatchwell, Jan. cat. 49, #52 (£650).

Reaping. Oil, 66 x 98 cm., signed and dated 1855. SL, 10 Nov., #103, illus. color (£29,900).

Sheep in a Field. Watercolor, 10 x 14.5 cm., initialed and dated 1811. SL, 11 Nov., #137, illus. (not sold; estimate £1000-1500).

Study of Horses. Pencil and white chalk, signed and dated 1811, 5 x 7 in. CL, 14 July, #143 (£104.50).

Winding the Skein. Oil, 25 x 36 cm., signed and dated 1860. SL, 14 July, #95, illus. color (not sold on an estimate of £6000-8000).

A Woman Working in a Garden and Landscape in North Wales. Both pencil heightened with white on blue paper, signed, 13.5 x 22 cm. and slightly smaller. SL, 29 Sept., #570 (not sold on an estimate of £300-400).

Woodcutters—The Glade. Oil, 53 x 74 cm., signed and dated 1881. CL, 11 June, #186, illus. color (£7130).

Family of John Linnell and his son James, “voluminous collection of prints, drawings and correspondence,” including a folder of sketches, 5 letters by John Linnell, prints by various hands, and letters from famous people, all in “two suitcases.” PAL, 18 March, #9 (estimate £600-800).

Autograph letter signed to the picture dealer Dominic Colnaghi, 6 May 1836. BBA, 2 Sept., #250, with 3 brief autograph notes, 1 with a rough sketch of 3 dogs, 2 letters from 2 of Linnell’s sons, James and William, an engraved portrait and a photograph of Linnell (Sanders of Oxford, £143).

Autograph letter signed to the poet Jean Ingelow, 9 June 1867, containing a drawing of an owl on the 3rd and final page. BBA, 2 Sept., #251 (Kunkler, £88).


MORTIMER, JOHN HAMILTON

Don Quixote, Pelted by the Galley-Slaves. Pencil, pen, brown wash, 23.1 x 20.9 cm. CL, 13 July, #10, illus. (£2185).

The Meeting of Vortigern and Rowena. Oil, 48.3 x 63.5 cm., exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1779. CL, 7 April, #36, illus. color (£45,500 on an estimate of £8000-12,000). A surprisingly high price, perhaps a record for one of Mortimer’s historical paintings.

Group of etchings after Mortimer, The Print Room, April cat. 11: #205, “Rustic Dancers” by Blyth (£200); #206, “Soldiers Funeral” by Blyth, illus. (£200); #207, “A Banditti Made Prisoners [sic]” by Hardy (£150); #208, “Banditti Regaling” by Richardson (£130).

Etchings of Monsters. Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, a selection, all illus.: #109, “Enrag’d Monster” (£280); #110, “Jealous Monster” (£320); #111, “Musical Monster” (£260); #112, “Sleeping Monster” (£190); #113, “Successful Monster” (not priced).

Spring 1994
15. Thomas Stothard, Cleone in a Man's Habit Attempts to Save Memnon and Artaxerxes from Imprisonment in the Temple of the Sun, an illustration to Nicholas Rowe's Ambitious Step-Mother. Pen and ink with gray wash, 12.7 x 7.8 cm., c. 1795, inscribed "T. Stothard." The preliminary drawing for the frontispiece to Rowe's play in Bell's British Theatre, vol. 25 (London: George Cawthorn, 1797). Collection of Detlef W. Dorrbecker. Although the inscription is reasonably like Stothard's signature, it may be one of the so-called "Spencer signatures" added early in this century by the dealer Walter T. Spencer to a good many small drawings—some actually by Stothard and others not. The size of the inscription and its location within the design, rather than discretely below, make one suspicious. Comparisons between such typical preliminary designs and the engraving (see illus. 16) provide a sense of the conventions used to translate an original drawing into an etching/engraving. It is interesting to note that, in this instance, the primary artist also drew the border, although certainly he must have been informed of the format required by the publisher. Stothard's work was determined in part by the requirements of graphic and bibliographic production before he began to draw.

Shakespeare Characters, etchings: Ophelia, Poet, York, Beatrice, Richard II, Falstaff. CSK, 4 Aug., #344, discolored, with 4 unrelated prints (bought-in at £65).

Bell's Poets of Great Britain. Poetry Bookshop, Nov. cat. 85, vols. from the series, divided into sets by author, including Addison (#5, £10), Butler (#122, £15), Milton (#572, £16), Parnell (#612, £12), Shenstone (#700, £12), Swift (#765, £16), Thomson (#840, £12). Poetry Bookshop, Dec. private offer, Pope, 4 vols. (£16).

OTTLEY, WILLIAM YOUNG

The 13 original copperplates, engraved in line and aquatint, for Twelve Stories of the Old Testament Engraved by Thomas Piroli from the Designs of William Young Ottley (Rome, 1797). Campbell Fine Art, Feb. cat. 4, #119, 2 pls. illus. (a great bargain at £1600). A remarkable survival, now in the Huntington Library.

PALMER, SAMUEL

A miscellaneous group of 8 water colors and 1 pen and ink drawing (#43 below), Agnew's, March-April 120th Annual Exhibition of Watercolours and Drawings, all illus. color in the cat.: #36, The Bay of Naples, 42 x 58.2 cm., datable to 1838 (price on application); #37, Near Under River, Sevenoaks, Kent, 26.5 x 36.5 cm., datable to c. 1843 (price on application); #38, The Bay of Baiae from Monte Nuovo, 14.3 x 39.7 cm., datable to 1841 (£37,500); #39, Will o’ the Wisp, 12.1 x 21.6 cm., datable to c. 1865 (£35,000); #40, Ploughing with Oxen, with a Village in the Distance, see illus. 13-14 (£22,000); #41, The Cornfield: Cloudy Morning, 18.5 x 41.3 cm., datable to 1847 ("sold"); #42, Sir Guyon with the Palmer Attending, Tempted by Phaedria to Land upon the Enchanted Island—from Spenser's Faerie Queene, 52.1 x 72.7 cm., datable to 1849 (price on application); #43, Mark von Old Mansion, the preliminary drawing for the engraving after Palmer in Rogers, Pleasures of Memory (c. 1865), 9.5 x 15.5 cm., signed ("sold"); #44, Backways near Tintagel, Cornwall, 18.5 x 26.7 cm., datable to 1848 ("sold"). Sir Guyon also in Agnew's 1993 cat., 2nd ed., #22, illus. color (not priced).

The Cascades at Tivoli. Water color, 27 x 37.5 cm., datable to 1838. SL, 15 July, #154, illus. color (£19,550 on an estimate of £10,000-15,000).

Children Gleaning in a Corn Field. Water color, 18 x 39 cm., signed. SL, 11 Nov., #123, illus. color (not sold on an estimate of £10,000-15,000).

Evening: A Cottager Returning Home Greeted by His Children. Water color, 18.9 x 41.1 cm. CL, 9 Nov., #64, illus. color (£29,900).

Landscape with Cottage Roof. Water color, 15.4 x 26.6 cm. CL, 9 Nov., #63, illus. color (£11,500).

Oxen Ploughing at Sunset. Water color, 39.5 x 27 cm., signed,

Scene at Underriver, Kent (or The Hop Garden). Oil and tempera on panel, 18.8 x 26 cm., c. 1831-32. Agnew's 1993 cat., 2nd ed., #10, illus. color (not priced). One of the few Shoreham period works to appear on the market in many years.

The Silver City: Morning on the Jura Mountains Looking towards the Alps. Water color, 18.5 x 40.5 cm., signed and dated 1844. SL, 15 July, #182, illus. color (£20,125 on an estimate of £10,000-15,000).

Street of Tombs, Pompeii. Water color, 33 x 41.9 cm., possibly the work exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1840. CL, 30 March, #77, illus. color (not sold on an estimate of £15,000-20,000). The most probable cause for the failure of this attractive drawing to sell is the odd features in the background on the left and center that suggest some reworking by another hand (Palmer's wife Hanna?).

The Villa d'Este from the Cypress Avenue. Pencil on card, 13.5 x 8.2 cm., mounted on a card inscribed in pencil by A. H. Palmer, "One of the Illustrations of the First Edition [1846] of Dickens's 'Pictures from Italy.'" An earlier version of the design than the pencil drawing of the same size in the Pierpont Morgan Library. Offered at auction in 1991 and 1992; acquired June 1993 by J. Windle from Holleymen and Treacher, the Brighton book dealers; sold July by Windle to R. Essick.

A complete collection of Palmer's etchings, many in early states, most expertly printed by Palmer or his son, all in fine condition. The group includes some of the finest impressions I have ever seen. Agnew's, offered as a collection early 1993, offered individually in May (handlist and price list available on application).


"Moeris and Galatea," etching. CL, 1 July, #201, 3rd st., 1924 printing, minor defects (not sold).

Hammerton, Etching and Etchers, 1880 (with "Herdsmen’s Cottage"). Thomas Thorp, Dec. 1992 cat. 479, #55, quarter roan (£400); June cat. 483, #44, contemporary half morocco, binding detached (£250).

Keats, Poetical Works, ed. Forman, 1883. Deighton, Bell, Aug. cat. 261, #158, 4 vols., special issue on untrimmed leaves, with the supplement of Poetry and Prose, 1890, in all 5 vols. in modern half calf (£500).


Rogers, Pleasures of Memory, published Sampson Low, et al., c. 1875? Simon Finch, March cat. 218, #91, original green cloth, Thomas Hardy’s copy, with a presentation inscription from his mother dated 11 May 1879 on the half-title (£450).

Virgil, Eclogues, 1883. Stephen Miller, June London Book Fair, large-paper issue, original parchment (£1000). SL, 6 July, #1542, small-paper issue, original cloth worn (Beccaria, £299).

ROMNEY, GEORGE

Three figure studies. Pen and brown ink, approx. 19.5 x 16 cm. SL, 11 Nov., #24 (not sold).

Centurion with His Horse, Studies for Susannah and the Elders, and Mutus Scaevola. 4, 2 pencil, 1 pen and brown ink, 1 watercolor, 28 x 42 cm. and smaller. SL, 11 Nov., #6 (not sold).

Lamentation. Pen and brown ink, 15.5 x 25 cm. SL, 11 Nov., #7 (not sold).

A Mother and Child. Pencil and brown wash, 18.4 x 13 cm. CL, 9 Nov., #13 (£690 on an estimate of only £200-300).

Psyche Being Rowed across the Styx. Pen and brown ink, gray wash, squared for transfer, 49.5 x 70 cm., c. 1775. SL, 11 Nov., #10, illus. (£2070).

Studies for John Howard Visiting a Prison. 2, pencil, 18 x 14 cm. and 14 x 23 cm. SL, 11 Nov., #23 (not sold).

Studies for a Portrait of Two Young Ladies Standing among Trees (recto). A Head Study and Subsidiary Figure Drawings (verso). Pencil (recto), red chalk (verso), 14 x 20.4 cm. CL, 30 March, #23, with another sheet of figure studies by Romney, recto illus. (not sold on an estimate of £500-700). The 2 recto drawings are preliminaries for Sisters Contemplating on Mortality, engraved by J. Dunkerton in 1779 after Romney’s untraced painting.

Three Studies of a Female Figure. Pen and brown ink, 14 x 19.5 cm. SL, 11 Nov., #20 (not sold).

Two Children with a Donkey. Gray wash heightened with white, 22 x 18.5 cm. SL, 15 July, #23 (£460).

RUNCIMAN, ALEXANDER


STOTHARD, THOMAS

Album of 36 figurative and architectural drawings, some signed, pencil, pen, and gray wash, album 37.7 x 28.7 cm. CL, 30 March, #24 (not sold on an estimate of £500-700).

A Battle Scene. Oil, 16.5 x 13.7 cm. CL, 13 July, #145 (£632).

Cleone in a Man’s Habit Attempts to Save Memnon and Artaxerxes from Imprisonment in the Temple of the Sun. Pen and ink with gray wash. Abbot and Holder, Jan. cat. 281, #229, entitled “a man with a lantern confronting two turbanned conspirators” (£125). See illus. 15-16.

Four Classical Figures. Acquired spring 1993 by Christopher Powney; sold July by Powney to R. Essick. See illus. 17.

Hide and Seek. Pen and ink, oil, 14 x 19 cm. Agnew’s, March-April 120th Annual Exhibition of Watercolours and Drawings, #21, illus. in the cat. (£1750).

Nagrakut Approached and Council Him. 2 pen and gray wash drawings, 7.6 x 5.8 cm. and smaller. CSK, 4 Aug., #105 (£50).

Interior of a Room. Water color, 13.4 x 11.2 cm. CL, 30 March, #112 (£1035); same work, Spink, fall cat., #107, illus. (price on application).

“First Bite” and “Just Breeched,” stipple engravings by Nutter, 1791. CSK, 20 Oct., #84, color printed (£220).

“The Lost Apple,” lithograph. SL, 29 June, #252, on the original support sheet with aquatint border, some creases to support, illus. (not sold; possibly withdrawn).

“Rangoon Views,” 13 colored aquatints. CSK, 4 Aug., #321, trimmed to the image, some tears (£400).

“The Wellington Shield,” large circular etching on 6 jointed sheets, c. 1820, by an unknown craftsman. CL, 1 July, #202, good condition for such a large print (no size given in cat.), in an elaborate gilt frame, illus. (£14,950 on an estimate of £8000-12,000). Surely a record price for any print by or after Stothard.

Akenside, Pleasures of Imagination, 1794. Mavis Eggle, June London Book Fair, contemporary calf (£24).

Bell, ed., *Art and Song*, 1867. Bernard Shapero, June private offer, publisher's bizarre roan and imitation wood-grained paper binding, corners chipped (£110).

Bell's *Poets of Great Britain*. Poetry Bookshop, Nov. cat. 85, vols. from the series, divided into sets by author, including Akenside (#10, £12), Armstrong (#30, £10), Buckingham (#115, £10), Cunningham (#200, £10), Denham (#224, £10), Donne (#231, £15), Fenton (#295, £10), Garth (#336, £10), Hughes (#412, £12), King (#466, £12), Lansdowne (#476, £10), Pitt (#620, £10), Pomfret (#626, £10), Rowe (#671, £10), Tickell (#844, £10), and Watts (#882, £22). Poetry Bookshop, Dec. private offer for 13 of the 14 Chaucer vols., with Cook's pl. rather than Blake's in vol. 13 (£25).

Blane, *Cynegética; or, Essays on Sporting*, 1788. Ximenes, July private offer, uncut in original boards, only a fragment of the spine label present ($325). The frontispiece, engraved by Heath after Stothard, can be added to the list of untigerish tigers before Blake's.


Bray, *Life of Stothard*, 1851 (extra-illustrated copies only). CL, 10 Sept., #13, extended to 2 vols., contemporary morocco (£160); same copy?, Robert Clark, Oct. cat. 34, #177, 2 vols., with the addition of c. 125 pls., including the "Seven Ages of Man" and other Shakespeare designs, full morocco (£400).

Burns, *Poetical Works*, 1821. G. David, June private offer, 2 vols., pls. foxed, contemporary calf (£60).


Cromek, *Remains of Nithsdale and Galloway Song*, 1810. Deighton, Bell, March cat. 260, #92, original boards uncut (£75). Kenneth Karmiolo, April cat. 230, #52, contemporary calf (£100). Maurice Dodd, June cat. 18, #18, contemporary calf rebacked, worn (£60). Alan Rankin, Oct. cat. 38, #68, original boards uncut, chipped spine label (£55).


*Friendship's Offering*, 1832. Holleyman & Treacher, Nov. private offer, publisher's blind-stamped calf (£15).

17. Thomas Stothard, *Four Classical Figures*. Pen and ink, gray washes, 15.4 x 11 cm., inscribed "T. Stothard" (perhaps a "Spencer signature"—see caption to illus. 15). Essick collection. The finished preliminary drawing for an engraving (very probably a book illustration) known in only two impressions, one of which (Balmanno Collection, British Museum) is inscribed in pencil lower left "Wm Blake 1779 engd" (possibly a signature) and lower right "T. Stothard inv."


Hayley, *Triumphs of Temper*, 1795. Phillip Pirages, Feb. cat. 25, #129 (reduced from earlier cats. to $140); same copy, May cat. 26, #181 (back up to $175).

*Keepsake*, 1828-30. BBA, 12 Aug., #300, pis. only, mostly on laid India, foxed, half morocco worn (Heath, £71).


Marmontel, *Belisair*, 1796. Quaritch, Nov. private offer, lacking half-title, contemporary calf (£150). This French ed., published by Isaac Herbert, has not been previously recorded as having the 6 pls. after Stothard, first published by Harding in the English translation of 1794.

Milton, Paradise Lost, 1792-93. Swann, 23 Sept., #230, 13 (of 157) pls. engraved by Bartolozzi, no text, 3 pls. before all letters, some foxing, quarter morocco (Ximenes for R. Essick, $357.50).

Park, Sonnets, and Other Small Poems, 1797. Ximenes, July private offer, quarter calf ($250).

Pictorial History of the Bible, 1835. G. David, June private offer, 2 vols., quarter calf ($80).

Pinkerton, Rimes, 1782. Simon Finch, Nov. cat. 21, #263, pl. spotted, mottled calf ($50).


Rogers, Pleasures of Memory. Holleyman & Treacher, Nov. private offer, 1798 ed., quarter calf ($10); 1801 ed., quarter calf ($20).


Shakespeare, Plays, 1807. See under Fuseli, above.

Shakespeare, Seven Ages of Man, 1799. Robert Vaughan, June private offer, with the descriptive text, pls. printed in brown and hand colored, later morocco gilt extra ($1000). Kenneth Karmiole, Dec. cat., #175, uncolored, bound with descriptive text, original wrappers bound-in but lacking the cover label, contemporary morocco ($750).

Shenstone, Poetical Works, 2 vols., 1798. Poetry Bookshop, July cat. 84, #332 ($30).


Townsend, Poems, 1796. Derek Gibbons, June private offer, uncut, boards ($35).


Young, Night Thoughts, 1798. Swann, 1 April, #230, contemporary morocco heavily gilt ($165). Francis Marsden, June London Book Fair, contemporary calf ($75).


Yriarte, Music, a Didactic Poem, 1807. Ximenes, July private offer, quarter calf ($225).

VON HOLST, THEODORE MATTHIAS

The Bride. Oil, 87.6 x 73.7 cm., signed and dated 1841. CL, 7 April, #147, illus. (not sold on an estimate of £3000-4000).

APPENDIX: NEW INFORMATION ON BLAKE'S ENGRAVINGS


The Separate Plates of William Blake: A Catalogue

P. 89, "Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims." Morris Eaves, The Counter-Arts Conspiracy: Art and Industry in the Age of Blake (Ithaca and London: Cornell UP, 1993) 258-59, offers cogent remarks on the graphic style of the plate, one in which Blake has "combined various modes of representation at a single stylistic level instead of blending them with a uniform system." The print emphasizes variety and difference by exposing "transitions" not covered by the "shimmering skein of tonal effects" favored by most early nineteenth-century printmakers and connoisseurs (258). Eaves's comments provide a means for locating the nexus between graphic style and Blake's views.
on how Chaucer distinguished the classes of men and women in his poem.

P. 98, "Laocoön." In William Blake: Milton a Poem and the Final Illuminated Works, ed. Robert N. Essick and Joseph Viscomi (London: Blake Trust/Tate Gallery, and Princeton: Blake Trust/Princeton UP, 1993) 229, 240-43, the editors redate the execution of the "Laocoön" plate from the traditional c. 1820 to c. 1826-27. The main basis for this redating is the "J" watermark in copy B. Copy A is without watermark, but the paper is of the same type and may even be another quarter of a sheet of "Imperial" size Whatman paper, also used in Blake's Genesis Manuscript (Butlin #828) of c. 1826-27. The chronology of Blake's printmaking activities and the relationships between the "Laocoön" plate and the Job engravings also support the redating.


P 104, "The Man Sweeping the Interpreter's Parlour," impression 2G. The paper shows the first half of the "W" of a Whatman watermark just below the top edge on the right.

P. 134, "The Fall of Rosamond." Detlef Dörrebecker has discovered a previously unrecovered impression in the Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Kupferstichkabinett, Karlsruhe, Germany. He tells me that the impression is in the 2nd st. and is printed in reddish brown on laid paper, 39.1 x 33.3 cm. This impression may have been acquired in 1783 (the year the plate was published, according to the imprint) by Margravine Karoline Luise of Baden-Durlach, who died in 1783 and whose collection mark graces the verso of the print. For another impression, previously unrecovered and now in the Tate Gallery, see the sales records under Separate Plates, above.

Pp. 150-57, "Rev. John Caspar Lavater." Much new background information about the print is offered in Joan K. Stemmler, "The Physiognomical Portraits of Johann Caspar Lavater," The Art Bulletin 75 (1993): 151-68. She reproduces, as her fig. 11, the black-chalk drawing of Lavater by Johann Heinrich Lips, 41.1 x 33.3 cm. in an oval frame and in the same direction as Blake's print (Lavater facing left), now in the Kunstsammlungen, Weimar, Germany. Stemmler concludes that this drawing is the basis for Blake's print, although with an intervening copy. She suggests that the intermediary may be the drawing now at Princeton (fig. 67 in the Separate Plates catalogue). I remain mildly suspicious that the Princeton drawing, with Lavater facing left, is a copy after Blake's pl. Stemmler also reproduces (fig. 12) the 1787 engraving of Lips's drawing by Adam Ludwig Wirsing (oval, 40.7 x 32.6 cm., Lavater facing right). She rejects Wirsing's print as the model for Blake's engraving; both Dörrebecker and I think it is still a good candidate. Stemmler also notes (160) early plans to issue Henry Hunter's translation of Lavater's Essays in Physiognomy in folio rather than the large quarto actually used—see John Knowles, The Life and Writings of Henry Fuseli (London: Colburn and Bentley, 1831) 1: 79. As Stemmler (162) indicates, these plans tend to support David Bindman's theory (see Separate Plates 156) that the "Lavater" separate pl. was originally produced as an illustration for the Essays, even though the pl. is too large for the published volumes.

P. 172, "Head of a Damned Soul in Dante's Inferno." The early plans to issue Lavater's Essays in Physiognomy as a folio support Bindman's suggestion that this plate was originally executed for the book—see comments above on pp. 150-57, "Rev. John Caspar Lavater."

Pp. 186-88, "James Upton." An impression of the 1st st. on wove paper was acquired by the British Museum in June 1989. It is inscribed in block capital letters in pencil (by Linnell?) below the image, "PAINTED AND ENGRAVED BY J. LINNELL / JAMES UPTON / PASTOR IN CHURCH STREET, SURREY ROAD, SOUTHWARK" (the last line partly written over an erased pencil inscription in script). In pencil script, probably by the same hand, along the lower margin is "London Pub March 31. 1814 [probably an error for 1819] - Linnell."

William Blake's Commercial Book Illustrations

P. 30, The Novelist's Magazine, pls. dated 1782 and 1783. According to John Pye, Patronage of British Art (London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans, 1845) 248n, James Heath received "five guineas" (£5.5s.) to engrave one of Thomas Stothard's illustrations to Joseph Andrews in The Novelist's Magazine. Since all the pls. are the same size and have a similar graphic style, this fee was probably the standard for all of Heath's engravings in the magazine. In the early 1780s, Heath and Blake were in very similar stages of their careers and their reputations as engravers were about the same. Thus we can surmise that Blake's fee for his 8 pls. was about five guineas each.

P. 80, Hayley, Essay on Sculpture, 1800, pl. 2. A drawing of the two central figures, attributable to John Flaxman on stylistic grounds, is now in the collection of David Bindman, London (see Death of Demosthenes under Flaxman in the sales lists above). This newly-discovered drawing offers further indication that Flaxman played a major role in creating the design attributed to Thomas Hayley in the engraved inscription ("T. H. invent.") on the plate.