

SALE OF A MAJOR COLLECTION.1

1. 19th century fiction by John Buchan.

***Sir Quixote of the Moors*. First published by T Fisher Unwin, 1895**

Blanchard A2. Buchan's first novel and the first book entirely written by him. An essential target for the serious Buchan collector. It is a novel of romance and tension set in Galloway in the days of the Covenanters. 188 pages, followed by a 4-page selection from Unwin's catalogue. Black cloth with striking decoration in red, pink, yellow and green.

BW309

GBP250

Binding as Blanchard A2. (See above). The corners and the sides of the spine are very slightly rubbed. The colours on the front cover are very bright; those on the spine are a little dull. The binding is cracked at page 48 but remains firm and the book is very bright internally. There is a name neatly written in ink on the fly-leaf. There is a pencilled note on the fly-leaf referring to it as a fine copy but I would place it is very good – still above average.

BW310

GBP200

Variant binding. The spine carries the shortened title, the bricks on the front are orange and the flower stems are black rather than black and red. There is no cross-hatched border around the illustrated panel. But for slight rubbing at the front top corner the binding is in very good condition. The lettering is a little dull. The binding is very firm with the hinges in excellent order. Some of the early pages are slightly tanned and a few have faint fingermarks. Page 7 has a faint mark in the margin and page 60 has a black stain across the margin at the top of the page. From page 181 onwards there is a tiny piece missing at the lower corner of the leaves. However, overall, this is a sound copy in good condition.

BW219

GBP250

Very rare variant binding in dark mustard yellow cloth.. In this case the book has the short title on the spine and front cover in black. The bricks are red, the flowers pale yellow with pale yellow stems and the front has a black cross-hatched border. The ends of the spine are rubbed and have a couple of very tiny splits; the lower corners are lightly bumped. The covers are bright with slight cockling of the cloth. The hinges are cracked but the binding remains firm. The pages are very lightly tanned but still quite bright and free from marks.

SPECIAL OFFER: Buy the above 3 copies, all with different bindings, for £625.

BW264 *Scholar Gipsies* published by John Lane, The Bodley Head, 1896.

GBP300

Together with a letter from John Buchan.

Blanchard A4. Buchan's second published work, a collection of essays and stories extolling the virtues of a scholarly life lived close to nature. Published in John Lane's Arcady Library series. 206pp + 16pp publisher's catalogue. Beige cloth with dark brown cloth spine; boards lettered and decorated in black, spine in gold; frontispiece etching with tissue guard and 5 other etchings; top edge brown, others uncut. First edition, together with a typed, signed letter from John Buchan.

A very nice copy with a binding which is very bright. There is very slight wear at the foot of the spine and a small abrasion near the lower edge of the front cover. The endpapers are lightly browned but otherwise the pages are very bright. Two pages have a tiny ink (?) mark on the top margin.

With the book is a typed letter, signed by JB and in its original envelope, giving permission for R Ellis Roberts to include some of JB's poetry in an anthology. I can find no evidence of the anthology ever having been published. There is nothing to indicate the connection between the book and the letter; they may simply have been stored together by a previous owner.

With the book is a description from a previous, but unknown bookseller; there is also a pencilled note on the fly-leaf stating "with letter £450". In my view that is an excessive price.

BW263 *The Pilgrim Fathers* published by BH Blackwell

GBP150

and by Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., 1898

Blanchard A6. Buchan's Newdigate Prize poem. 12 pages. Bound in grey card with a sewn binding, printed in black. All edges uncut. The covers are lightly sun-browned along the outer edge and the top corners have small pieces missing. The text is clean but the page edges are slightly sun-browned. The main defect is that the sewn binding is missing so that the pages are held loosely inside the covers. This would be a simple repair for anyone with reasonable craft skills.

John Burnet of Barns

First published by John Lane: The Bodley Head, 1898.

Blanchard A7. An early Buchan novel set in the late 17th/early 18th centuries. The action roves between Tweeddale, Edinburgh and Holland. 444pp + 12pp publisher's adverts. Green cloth with pale green lettering and decoration. The text block edges are uncut.

The story was originally published in serial form in *Chambers's Journal* between November 1897 and July 1898.

BW265

GBP150

First edition. Usual patchy fading of the front and rear covers and the spine has been sun-affected to a uniform mid-brown shade. Both defects are common to this binding. The lettering on the spine remains bright. The hinges are cracked but the binding remains firm and the pages are very bright except for a couple of finger marks. The endpapers are lightly browned.

BW144

GBP60

Chambers's Journal, 6th series, volume 1 containing bound issues from December 1897 to July 1898, including the 1897 Christmas issue. It therefore contains the whole of the novel in its first published form, as well as the usual wide range of stories, articles, etc. 832 pages + 48-page Christmas issue. Bound in a rather utilitarian textured brown cloth. Red text block edges. The corners are rubbed and/or worn and the spine has faded. The ends of the spine have slight wear. The hinges are cracked but the binding remains firm. There is a bookplate in the name of Fothergill on the front paste-down.

BW320 *Grey Weather* published by John Lane: The Bodley Head, 1899

GBP300

Blanchard A9. A collection of short stories, mostly set in and around Tweeddale. Many have supernatural overtones. Sub-titled *Moorland Tales of My Own People*. 298 pages. Green cloth with pale green lettering and decoration. The text block edges are uncut. This is an exceptionally nice copy with much less fading on the covers than is usual. There is just a small amount of sun-browning down the outer edges. As always, the spine has browned, but again, far less than is usual. It also looks as if it may have had some very high quality restoration work done. The binding is very firm and I think the endpapers may have been replaced although they are an excellent match for the originals. Internally, the pages are clean and bright and there are no inscriptions. Possibly the best copy I have seen.

BW315 *A Lost Lady of Old Years* Published by John Lane: The Bodley Head, 1899.

GBP180

Blanchard A10. A novel following the adventures of a young law apprentice during the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion. Margaret Murray, wife of Murray of Broughton, is a character. 370 pages. Green cloth with pale green lettering and decoration. The text block edges are uncut.

These last 3 titles have very similar bindings. The spine and the rear cover have patchy fading, although the spine still retains a green shade rather than the brown to which it usually fades. The silver lettering on the front and spine has faded almost completely, but as it is blind-stamped it is still quite legible.

There is a small amount of rubbing round the edges and the front board is bowed. The book appears to

have had new endpapers at some time and the binding is exceptionally firm & tight. The text is remarkably bright throughout. A better-than-average copy.

SPECIAL OFFER: Buy the above 3 first editions for £550.

The Half-Hearted

First published by Isbister & Co Ltd, 1900.

Blanchard A11. Having been defeated in politics and in love because of his half-heartedness, Lewis Haystoun seeks to remedy his failings through Army service on the North-West frontier. This was Buchan's first novel in a contemporary setting. 376 pages. Bound in khaki cloth with black and grey lettering. The front cover and the spine have dramatic illustrations. Top edge gilt, others rough trimmed.

BW225

GBP200

First edition. An exceptional copy with a bright, unmarked binding and equally bright internally except for lightly browned endpapers. The binding is firm with no cracking of the hinges but there is very slight rubbing at the ends of the spine.

NB The following 3 books are interesting variants. The pagination and interior layout are exactly the same as Blanchard A11 but the page size is smaller. This has been achieved by simply trimming the pages with narrower margins around all 4 sides. All are bound in plain cloth with no illustration on the spine or the front. These are noted as later issues by Blanchard; as the first edition was issued in September 1900 and these still carry the date 1900 they must have been issued very soon after the first edition. These variant bindings are almost as scarce as the first editions.

BW226

GBP80

Variant binding in textured brown cloth. Lightly rubbed at the corners and the ends of the spine. The front hinge is cracked but the binding remains firm. Very bright internally.

BW360

GBP75

Variant binding in textured pale blue cloth. Spine slightly faded and is rubbed at the ends, otherwise very good. There is a rubber-stamped name on the front paste-down.

BW361

GBP65

Variant binding in plain maroon cloth. Spine slightly darkened. Black mark on rear cover. Very occasional foxing.

SPECIAL OFFER: Buy the 3 variant binding copies for £180.

2. Foreign language editions of John Buchan's works.

Mostly overseas editions of *The Thirty-Nine Steps* but there are a number of other titles as well. An unusual 'collecting habit' but one I have occasionally come across. A demonstration of the wide-ranging appeal of Buchan's work.

Fiction

BW007 Τα Τριάντα Εννέα Σκαλοπάτια. Paperback. Published by ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ ΚΑΣΤΑΝΙΩΤΗ, 1989

Illustrated Greek language edition of *The Thirty-Nine Steps*. 156 pages. Bound in illustrated card covers with dustwrapper-style flaps. 8 full-page line drawings. Very good throughout. **GBP3.00**

BW008 Les 39 Marches. Paperback. Published by Éditions j'ai lu, Paris, 1962.

Preface by Boileau-Narcejac.

156 pages. Illustrated card covers with small Famous Grouse advert on the front. Good condition.

GBP2.00

BW010 *Les 39 Marches*. Paperback. Published by Libro, Paris, 1962.

Preface by Boileau-Narcejac.

126 pages. Illustrated card covers with still from Hitchcock film on front. Pages very lightly tanned around the margins, otherwise good.

GBP2.50

BW012 *Os 39 Degraus*. Paperback. Published by Record, Rio de Janeiro. Undated.

149 pages. Illustrated card covers with dustwrapper-style flaps. Edges spotted, otherwise very good.

GBP2.50

BW013 *39 Escalones*. Paperback. Published by Bruguera, Barcelona, 1982.

190 pages. Orange card covers with illustrated front. Small stain on the outer edge of the text block, otherwise very good.

GBP2.00

BW018 *Les Trente-Neuf Marches*. Paperback. Published by Éditions du Masque, Paris, 2012.

190 pages. Yellow card covers with still from Hitchcock film on front. Excellent condition.

GBP2.50

BW021 *De 39 Trinn*. Paperback. Published by Norild Forlag, Trondheim, 1978.

158 pages. Illustrated card covers. Lightly tanned page margins and occasional light foxing.

GBP2.00

BW026 *39 Escalones*. Illustrated paperback; also includes *El Viento en el Portico*. Published by Bruguera, Barcelona, 1981.

Large format paperback numbered pp 627-703. Published in the Club del Misterio series. Numerous black & white illustrations. Illustrated yellow covers. A little creased around the edges and lightly foxed covers.

GBP4.00

BW027 *De Trettonio Stegen*. Hardback with dustwrapper. Published by Botforlaget Bra Bocker, Sweden, 1977. Foreword by Tage La Cour.

135 pages. Bound in black faux-Morocco with gold lettering. Illustrated dustwrapper with stills from the Hitchcock film. The book is very good Throughout. The d/w is a little ragged along the top edge but otherwise good.

GBP5.00

BW042 *Les Trente-Neuf Marches et La Centrale d'Énergie*. Hardback. Published by Nelson Éditeurs. Undated (1920s?)

379 pages. Bound in cream cloth with green and pale brown lettering and decoration. Lightly sunned spine. Binding a little shaky. Corners bumped and rubbed. Name on front paste-down. Bright internally with occasional turned corners and some pencilled annotations.

GBP6.00

BW058 *I Trentanove Gradini*. Paperback. Published by Superbur Classici, Milano, 2003.

133 pages. Illustrated blue card covers with white lettering. Very good condition.

GBP3.00

BW081 *Les Trente-Neuf Marches*. Paperback. Published by Arthaud, 1962. Preface by Boileau-Narcejac.

139 pages. Rd & white card covers with yellow & white lettering.

GBP3.00

BW329 *Le Prophète au Manteau Verte*. Hardback. Abridged. Published by Nelson Éditeurs, 1930.

217 pages. Bound in orange cloth with gold lettering and a gold ship device on the front. Patterned endpapers. Faded spin; corners lightly bumped and a small white mark on the front. Excellent internally.

GBP6.00

BW331 *Cele treizeci si noua di trepte*. Paperback. Published by Leda, Bucharest, undated.

188 pages. Illustrated card covers. One corner of the covers is creased. Otherwise good condition.

GBP2.00

BW332 / 39 Scalini. Paperback. Published by Oscar Mondadori, Turin. 2009.

131 pages. Yellow card covers with aeroplane silhouette on front and red & Black lettering. Excellent condition.

GBP4.00

BW333 De Trettionio Stegen. Hardback. Published by Bonniers, Stockholm, 1967.

133 pages. Bound in illustrated laminated boards. Very good throughout.

GBP5.00

BW335 Le Prêtre Jean. Hardback. Published by Nelson Éditeurs, Paris, undated (1920s?).

378 pages. Bound in cream cloth with green and pale brown lettering and decoration. The hinges are cracked and the binding a little shaky. The cloth on the front is slightly cockled and there is a small red mark on the rear. Bright internally.

GBP4.00

BW373 The Thirty-Nine Steps (in Arabic). Unknown date/publisher but probably 1920s.

Little I can say as, apart from the English title, the whole book, including the publisher's name and the page numbering, is in Arabic. From the style of binding I would guess that it dates from the 1920s. It is bound in dark blue cloth with a 'shot silk' appearance and has a plain black cloth spine. The endpapers are pale grey. The boards are rubbed around the edges and there is considerable scuffing on the surface. The hinges are cracked, the binding slightly shaky, and the pages are evenly tanned. A most unusual book and the only Arabic translation of a John Buchan work I have ever seen. Definitely one for the collector of JB exotica!

GBP10.00

BW399 The Thirty-Nine Steps in Simplified English. Published by Longmans. Third Hong Kong impression, 1961.

96 pages. Purple card covers with black lettering on a white background. Illustrated with line drawings. There are a couple of small nicks in the edge of the front cover. Good internally.

GBP3.00

Non-fiction

BW084 A Batalha de Jutlandia. Paperback. Published by Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1916.

Portuguese translation of Blanchard A37. 55 pages, 2 fold-out maps, illustrated. White paper covers creased and a little ragged around the edges. Small piece missing from front lower edge. Several stamps and notes on the front. The spine is heavily worn. Internally good with browned text block edges.

GBP15.00

BW085 La Bataille de Jutland. Paperback. Published by Darling & Son, London, 1916.

French translation of Blanchard A37 and similar layout. 43 pages. White paper covers with blue lettering and illustration. 2 fold-out maps. Illustrated. The covers are detached and have a diagonal crease across the front and also a worn spine. Intermittent foxing.

GBP15.00

BW243 La Batalla del Somme segunda fase. Paperback. Published by Thomas Nelson & Sons, Paris, undated.

Portuguese language edition. Bound in brown card with black lettering. The pagination and illustrations follow those of the UK edition, Blanchard A41. 102 pages. 36 photographs and a fold-out map. The binding is worn and soiled; the front cover is almost detached. Internally good with some turned page corners. The pages are slightly grubby.

GBP12.00

SPECIAL OFFER: Buy 2 foreign language editions and receive a 10% discount; buy 3 and receive a 15% discount; buy 4 or more and receive a 20% discount.