

**CATALOGUE OF
DECORATED EARLY
ENGLISH BOOKBINDINGS**

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Catalogue of Decorated Early English Bookbindings by Various

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VARIOUS

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ENGLISH BOOKBINDINGS**

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ATALOGUE OF
DECORATED
EARLY ENGLISH
BOOKBINDINGS

EXHIBITED AT
THE GROLIER CLUB
1899



29 EAST THIRTY-SECOND STREET
NEW-YORK

1899

PREFATORY NOTE.

IN the absence of precise data relative to the external decoration of books by English binders prior to the middle of the XVIIIth century, it has been thought desirable to gather this group with the view of assisting by comparison to a wider knowledge of the subject. Decorative bookbinding of English workmanship prior to 1700 is of infinitely rarer occurrence than contemporary specimens from continental Europe, and the history of the craft has yet to be written.

It will be interesting to note the group of books printed in Oxford, and their uniform excellence of decoration.



CATALOGUE.

1 Arrianus. Basileae 1533.

4°, brown calf, gilt back, scroll ornamentation on the sides, with stamped corners, and in the centre the "Bear and Ragged Staff" device of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.

Less than six of Leicester's books have been found bearing his device as above.

2 Aristotle. Parisiis 1554.

4°, brown calf, gilt back, sides richly decorated, the centres bearing an escutcheon in black and white, with the device of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, impressed in silver; the corners are finished with heavy stamps, and the intervening spaces with trefoil ornaments.

3 Peter Martyr. Most learned and fruitfull Commentaries. London 1568.

fo., calf, King James the First's copy, with his arms on the sides.

- 4 **Turberville (George).** *Booke of Faulconrie.*
London 1575.

4°, purple velvet, with figure of a falcon and rose,
and corner ornaments all in silver.

- 5 **Plato.** *Opera.* Parisiis 1578.

fo. (three volumes), red morocco, gilt back, lace panel on
the sides within a wide border of similar character.

- 6 **Austrasiae Reges et Duces Epigrammatis,**
per Nicolaum Clementem.

Coloniae 1591.

4°, calf, with the arms of Charles I (when Prince of
Wales) impressed on the side covers.

- 7 **Spenser (Edmund).** *The Faerie Queene and*
Colin Clouts. London 1595-6.

3 vols. in 1, 4°, calf, gilt back, side corners, with the ini-
tials J. E. (John Evelyn) repeated in the back panels
and elaborated in the centre of each cover.

- 8 **Natali.** *Evangelicae Historiae Imagines.*

Antwerpiae 1596.

fo., gilt back, sides elaborately tooled ("pointillé") in
mosaic compartments.

- 9 **A Godlie Forme of Household Government.**
London 1598.

8°, calf, gilt back, sides decorated with large block orna-
ments filled in with acorns, embossed gilt edges.

- 10 **Camden (Wm.).** Britannia. London 1600.
 The dedication copy to Queen Elizabeth.
 4^o, olive morocco, gilt back, with the Royal Lion and fleur-de-lis in the panels, side corners, the arms of Queen Elizabeth in the centre, guarded by four falcons, the mark of Anne Boleyn.
- 11 **Caesar's Dialogue.** London 1601.
 8^o, vellum, gilt sides, with the arms of Queen Elizabeth, said to be her copy.
- 12 **Book of Common Prayer and Holy Bible.** London 1607.
 fo., embroidered on tapestry with colored silks and threads of gold and silver, the design representing the Garden of Eden with figures of animals, etc., and the Temptation.
- 13 **Pindari.** Carmina. Gr. et Lat. Oxford 1607.
 fo., red morocco, doubled with red morocco and lavishly tooled with thistle, acorn, and other ornaments, gilt and marbled edges.
- 14 **Book of Psalms.** London 1619.
 12^o, covered with needlework, colored and silver threads, on a red ground.

- 15 **Croy (François de).** The three Conformities, etc. London 1620.

8°, russia, gilt back, block corners and centre on the sides, filled in with stars.

- 16 **Godly Observations.** Manuscript circa 1620.

12°, silk, embroidered in colors, with gold and silver threads, depicting flowers, insects, and a composite lamb-squirrel.

- 17 **White (Francis).** A Replie to Jesuit Fishers. London 1624.

fo., brown morocco—dedicated to James II— with massive panel on the sides bordered with leaf ornaments, and the arms of the King in the centre.

- 18 **Smith (Capt. John).** The Generall Historie of Virginia. London 1624.

fo., brown morocco, sides heavily tooled in gold, the centre panel pointed with the triple plumes of the Prince of Wales and enclosing the Royal arms.

- 19 **Booke of Psalms.** London 1627.

12°, tapestry cover, with floral embroidery in colors on green ground.

- 20 **New Testament.** Cambridge 1628.

12°, needlework binding in gold, silver and colored silk threads.

- 21 **Book of Psalms.** London 1630.
12°, embroidered in colors on a ground of white corded silk.
- 22 **Hayward (Sir John).** Sanctuarie of a troubled Soule. London 1631.
12°, brown morocco, back and sides tooled and inlaid in compartments, with painted and gilt edges.
- 23 **Herbert (George).** The Temple. Cambridge [1631].
12°, olive morocco, tooled on back and sides, with acorn and other ornaments.
- 24 **Fletcher, Jr. (Giles).** Christs Victorie. Cambridge 1632.
4°, red morocco, back and sides richly tooled.
- 25 **New Testament and Psalter.** London 1633.
12°, embroidered in colored and silver threads on white silk, with rose centre and corners, by the Nuns of Little Gidding.
- 26 **King Arthur.** History of. London 1634.
4°, russia, rich gilt back (pointillé), gilt sides, with circle and corner ornaments by Walther.
- 27 **Holy Bible and Psalms.** London 1635-6.
12°, white silk, embroidered with ornaments, the Tudor rose being prominent. Presumably executed by the Nuns of Little Gidding or Mrs. Mary Ferrar.