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## Acquisitions • December 2015

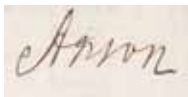
### Nautical Medicine

#### 1. ANSON, Admiral Lord George.

Printed Admiralty order regarding venereal disease amongst sailors, signed by Anson and others.

*Folio, 6 pages plus integral blank; folded to docket size with manuscript annotation "Admiralty New Instructions relating to Surgeons". London, Office of the Admiralty, October 1757.*

A scarce and desirable relic of eighteenth-century naval life: an official document concerning the treatment of venereal disease amongst seamen, fully signed by three Admirals including the famous privateer and Pacific voyager George Anson. It directs that some 15 shillings be deducted from the wages of each sailor to cover costs incurred by the Navy. Gonorrhoea and syphilis were the bane of naval life, and this document laments both the spread of disease and seemingly impossible task of curbing the adventures of men during their time on shore.



\$985



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2. **BEAGLEHOLE, J.C., editor.** The Journals of Captain James Cook on his Voyages of Discovery.

*Four volumes, large octavo, and a portfolio of 68 charts & views; bound in cloth. Sydney, published by Hordern House in association with the Boydell Press, 2000.*

3. **BLANE, Gilbert.** "Statements of the Comparative Health of the British Navy, from the year 1779 to the year 1814" [in] *Medico-Chirurgical Transactions* Vol. 6.

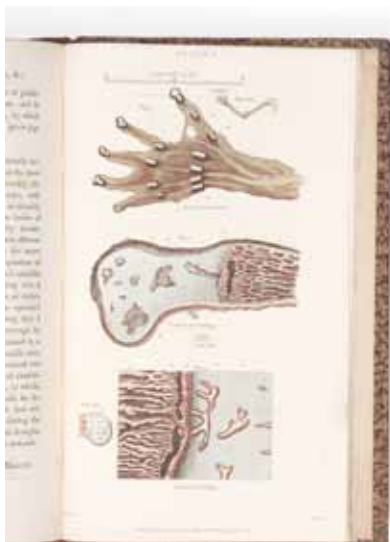
*Octavo, six engraved plates (three coloured), in neat modern paper boards. London, Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme and Brown 1815.*

Re-issue of the classic edition of Cook's original manuscript journals, originally published by the Hakluyt Society in 1968. The text of the journals provides the most reliable and authoritative narrative of Cook's three voyages, and is an essential source for the historian or voyage-enthusiast.

\$2500

An attractive copy of this journal, with innumerable articles by naval and military doctors, including a major essay by Gilbert Blane on the last thirty years of medical advances in the British Navy, concentrating on the eradication of scurvy from longer sea-voyages. Blane (1749-1834) had long been concerned with the health of sailors and in the present long article of over eighty pages he provides a fascinating overview of conditions on board British Naval vessels.





The article includes notes derived from personal experience, private Admiralty papers and the archive of James Lind. Practical methods of combatting scurvy are given priority, with particular notes on the trial conducted on the *Suffolk* in 1794, aboard which sailors had their grog dosed with lemon juice, and reported no cases of scurvy in a twenty-three week passage to Madras. There are also notes on the earlier devastating history of the disease relating to the infamous circumnavigation of Anson, the proposals of Dr. John Hunter in recommending lemon juice to the East India Company, notes from Flinders' recently published voyage account on the advantages of antiscorbutics compared with the appalling effects of scurvy on Baudin's voyage, and references to the path-breaking work of Captain Cook.

\$985

4. **BROWNING, Colin Arrott.** *England's Exiles; or, a View of a System of Instruction and Discipline, as carried into effect during the voyage to the Penal Colonies of Australia.*

*Small octavo, 238 pp., original printer's green cloth. London, Darton and Clark, 1842.*

An important and overlooked book describing the experiences of a surgeon aboard convict transports, including the *Elphinstone* which arrived in Hobart in 1836. The author is remembered as a compassionate

and devout physician who 'protested against sick prisoners being embarked and complained of the quantity and quality of the medicines and medical comforts placed in convict ships. He was attentive in the medical care of the prisoners and sought to further their education' (ADB). In this book Browning provides a well-considered account of overdue reforms to the practice of transportation, and was published in time to be of some impact on the last twenty years or so of ships being sent to Australia. Throughout there are glimpses of life on board based the authors experiences. An appendix deals with preventative medicine: hygiene, clothing, diet and exercise.

\$725

5. **BROWNING, Colin Arrott.** *The Convict Ship; A Narrative... on board the "Earl Grey," during the Voyage to Tasmania.*

*Small octavo, 324 pp., errata slip, original decorated brown cloth. London, Smith, Elder & Co., 1844.*

The most interesting of Browning's accounts as surgeon-superintendent: it is well-regarded for the detailed biographies of many of the convicts he knew.

*Ferguson, 3796.*

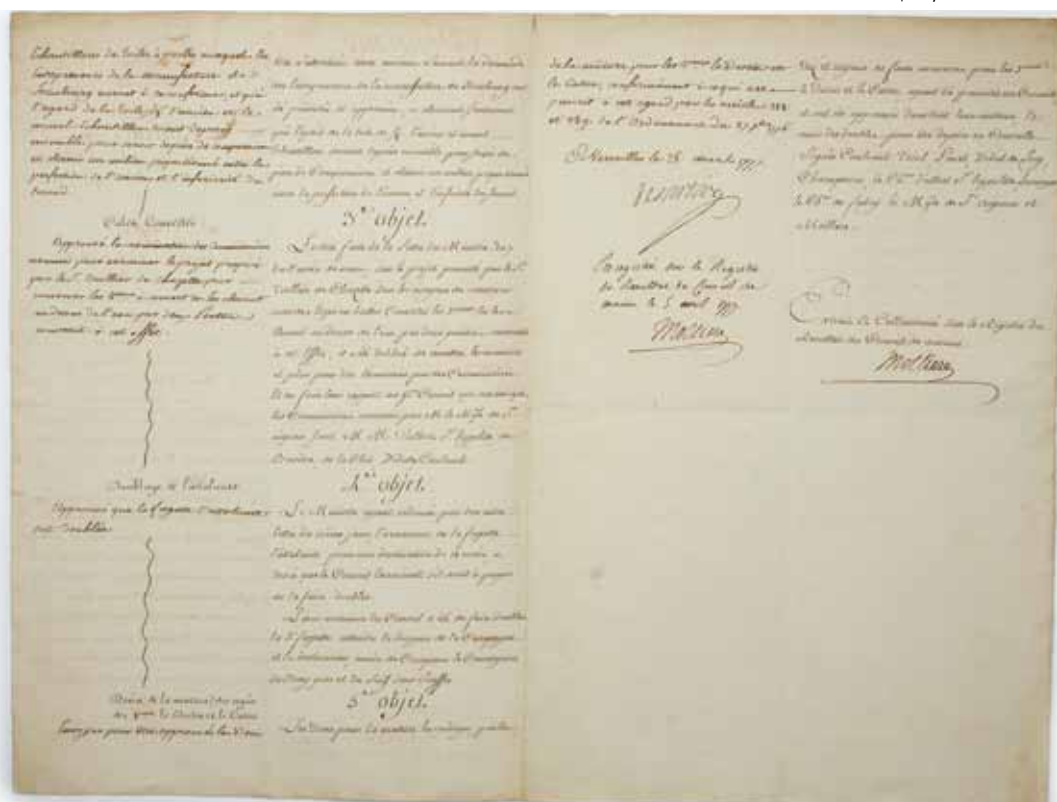
\$775

6. **[CONSEIL DE MARINE].** Original manuscript report: *Décisions. Précaution contre le Scorbut... observation sur les moyens employés par M. Cook pour conserver la santé des gens de mer...*

*Folio, 3 pp., manuscript in ink on paper, original folds; in fine condition, preserved within a solander case. Toulon, dated 9 April 1777.*

A rare and very significant survival, showing deliberate adoption by the French navy of measures pioneered by Cook for eradicating scurvy. This is an original manuscript of proceedings at a meeting of the Conseil de Marine in Toulon and is signed by the secretary Molliere. Of five matters considered, by far the most important was the success of Captain Cook in combating scurvy. A letter from the Minister was read to the meeting inviting them to consider the matter, as well as a memoir "sur les moyens employés par M. Cook pour conserver la Santé de l'équipage du Vau. Anglois la Résolution pendant un Voyage autour du monde..." [on the methods employed by M Cook to safeguard the health of his crew during a voyage around the world on HMS Resolution]. Medical reports were given, and in view of the high cost associated with appropriately provisioning a ship, the members of the council were asked to consider the matter at length.

\$24,500



7. **CUNNINGHAM, Peter.** Two Years in New South Wales; A Series of Letters...

*Two volumes, duodecimo; nineteenth-century polished calf, spine gilt with black morocco labels, bookplates of William Henry Cox in both volumes. London, Henry Colburn, 1827.*



First edition: a lively and engaging account by a naval surgeon who served on five voyages to Australia aboard convict transports before settling in the upper Hunter Valley. Of Scottish descent, Peter Cunningham (1789-1864) joined the navy during the Napoleonic Wars and in 1819 accepted the position of surgeon-

superintendent aboard the convict transport *Recovery*. He enjoyed a good reputation for the slight loss of life under his care, and made his last such voyage in 1828. Some 66 pages of this book are specifically devoted to the care of convicts at sea, including good discussion of diet, morale, discipline, clothing, hygiene, exercises, games to alleviate boredom and relations between felons and the marines set to guard them.

Additionally, this most readable set includes detailed and unguarded descriptions of peculiarly Australian social customs, with some observations on the vocabulary and accent of those born in the colony.

*Ferguson, 1109; Ford 'Bibliography of Australian Medicine', 590.*

\$1275

8. **CUNNINGHAM, Peter.** Zwei Jahre in Neu Südwaales...

*Octavo, original half roan. Leipzig Hartmann 1829.*

German translation of the previous title. Ferguson originally knew the National Library copy only, but added the Mitchell and the then Public Library of Victoria to his census. As the title-page notes, this translation was based on the second revised edition (London, 1827).

*Ferguson, 1253.*

\$700

9. **DE VILLE, James.** 'Result of an Examination... of the Heads of 148 convicts on board the convict ship *England*...' [in] *The Phrenological Journal and Miscellany* Vol. IV.

*Octavo, contemporary green half calf, spine banded and gilt. Edinburgh, October 1826 - November 1827.*

Includes a fascinating article on the phrenological experiments – the first of their kind – carried out on board the convict ship *England* in the spring of 1826. The author, James de Ville (1777-1846) had worked as a sculptor's assistant as a young man, good training for the art of casting phrenological casts. The article notes that 'Mr De Ville furnished... a distinct memorandum of the inferred character of each individual convict, and pointed out the manner in which the dispositions of each would probably appear in his general conduct on the passage. The desperadoes were all specifically noted, and a mode of treatment to prevent mischief suggested. One man in particular was noted as very dangerous, from his energy, ferocity, and talent for plots and profound dissimulation. His name was Robert Hughes.'

\$850

10. **DESPERRIERES, M. Poissonnier.** *Observations sur le Discours de M. Pringle, Qui termine la Relation des voyages de M. Cook...* [in] *Traité des fièvres de l'isle de St.-Domingue...* Nouvelle édition.

*Octavo, recent half calf. Paris, de l'Imprimerie Royale, 1780.*

Early and informative published French notice of Cook's findings on diet and scurvy, disseminating information of vital importance for the health of mariners derived from the first and second voyages of discovery. A noted authority on the treatment of scurvy, Poissonnier Desperrières was a Royal physician and professor at Dijon. Persuasive and well positioned to trial novel methods, Desperrières enjoyed a wide correspondence with physicians in Britain and further afield. Significantly, he tested new antiscorbutic diets propounded by English doctors (including James Lind and David Macbride)



10

aboard French naval vessels, while also conducting experiments of his own design.

This is an example of the new and amended edition, comprising three essays: the first concerns fevers of Saint-Domingo; the second details sea trials by Desperrières, and the third is principally concerned with the findings of Captain Cook.

*Beddie, 327 (first edition).*

\$850

11. **FORSTER, Georg.** *Cook the Discoverer.*

*Quarto, 276 pages, two illustrations; hand-bound in quarter tan kangaroo with speckled paper sides. Sydney, Hordern House and the Australian National Maritime Museum, 2007.*

Limited edition: this new translation makes Forster's vivid picture of shipboard life available to English-speakers for the first time, some 220 years after its original publication. Includes a 106-page facsimile of the rare original German printing of 1787, and an introductory essay by Dr Nigel Erskine of the Australian National Maritime Museum.

\$325



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12. **FREIND, John.** The History of Physick; from the time of Galen, to the beginning of the sixteenth century...

*Two volumes, octavo, contemporary panelled calf. London J. Walthoe 1726.*



The first history of medicine written by an Englishman. Regarding nautical medicine, John Freind warns against the quackery regularly deployed in the treatment of venereal diseases amongst seamen. Especially curious is a description of scurvy as a contagion – Freind maintains it was unknown to the classical Greeks and Arabians, and is effectively a modern scourge. It apparently spread from Portuguese sailors to the Scandinavians, then into continental Europe via Saxony: 'At length, towards 1600, it dispers'd itself through most parts of Europe, and is now become an Epidemical evil.' A contradiction is then revealed for although scurvy is described as a contagion, the author ascribes its original cause to the 'sea-diet.' This is an attractive early mixed set, comprising the third edition of the first volume and first edition of the second volume.

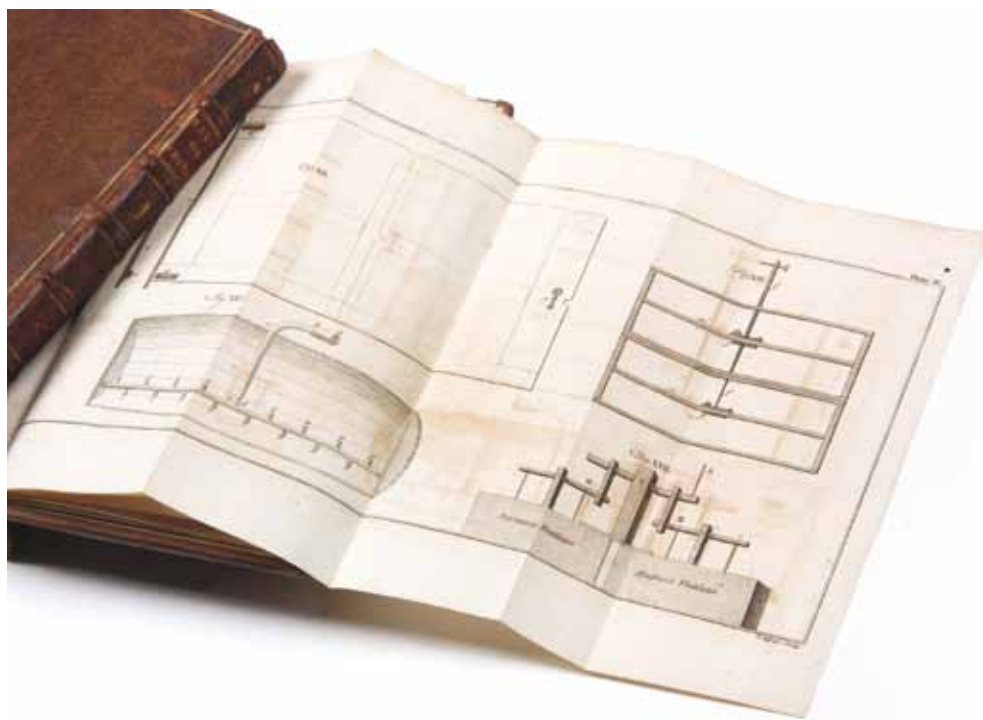
\$2850

13. **HALES, Rev. Stephen.** A Description of Ventilators: whereby Great Quantities of Fresh Air May with Ease be Conveyed into Mines, Goals, Hospitals, Work-Houses and Ships, in Exchange for their Noxious Air.

*Two volumes, octavo, five folding plates, contemporary speckled calf. London, Innys, Manby and Woodward 1763.*

First edition describing the invention of artificial ventilation, a pivotal development with positive implications for life at sea. Hales' ventilators became known as "ship's lungs", and were so appreciated by eighteenth-century sailors, and contributed so significantly to an improvement in seaboard conditions, that captains reported the crews needed little encouragement to work the machines. Designed to draw fresh air into confined spaces, his machines were installed in naval and merchant vessels, slave ships, as well as in non-marine contexts such as hospitals, theatres and prisons.

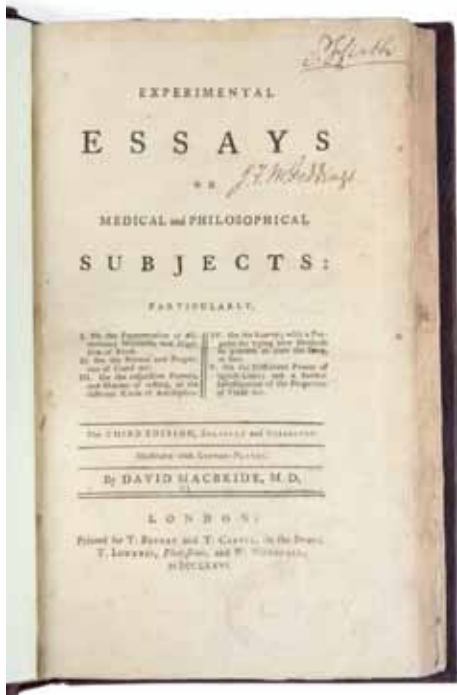
\$7500



14. **MACBRIDE, David.** Experimental Essays on Medical and Philosophical Subjects.

*Octavo, two folding tables and four folding plates, modern brown morocco. London, Becket and Cadell, 1776.*

An important book, including the essay titled "On the Scurvy". Extrapolating upon the thesis of John Pringle, Macbride argued the disease was related to the loss of fixed air (carbon dioxide). As a cheap and accessible source of fixed air, he recommended the use of infusions of malt – "worts" – taken from the liquid remaining when malt is suspended in water. The solution was tested with some apparent success by his brother Admiral John Macbride on HMS Jason and, despite less tangible results on the voyages of Wallis and Carteret, Macbride's Malt was one of the main treatments taken with Cook on the Endeavour. Cook was so taken with the Malt that he continued to use and



value it during his second voyage, leading to the withering comment that 'contrary to general belief... Cook's voyages delayed rather than hastened the introduction of the true cure of scurvy' (see Lloyd and Coulter, *Medicine & the Navy*). This is the third and final edition of a work first published in 1764. All editions are now quite rare. Blake, p. 281; Partington, III, p. 143; Wellcome IV, p. 5 (first and second editions).

\$4100

15. **MILMAN, Francis.** *Recherches sur le scorbut et les fièvres putride...*

*Octavo, uncut in original plain blue-grey wrappers, early ink spine label. Paris, Didot jeune et al., 1786.*



Attractive Didot-printed work on scurvy with references to Lind and Cook, originally published in English as *An Enquiry into the Source from whence the Symptoms of the Scurvy and of Putrid Fevers arise* (1782). This French edition was translated by the magisterially named Joseph Vigarous de Montagut, a physician and member of the Société Royale des Sciences de Montpellier. In many ways Montagut's translation is more interesting than the original English because of his preface promoting French voyages of scientific discovery. Montagut notes it should be read in conjunction with Lind, and that the practical details have been expertly displayed by Cook in his voyages around the world. Accordingly, this book was intended as a companion to the 1783 Paris edition of Lind titled *Traité du Scorbut*.

\$875

16. **PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN.** An Act for regulating the Vessels carrying Passengers from the United Kingdom to His Majesty's Plantations and Settlements Abroad...

*Folio, pp. [1]-14, disbound. Edinburgh, printed by Sir D. Hunter Blair & J. Bruce, 1803.*

One of the most important amendments to the laws of Transportation, formalising the requirement for convict vessels to carry a Surgeon, and thus directly responsible for a huge improvement in mortality rates. The new law applied to both naval and private vessels carrying convicts to Australia.

The Act is fascinating for the light it sheds on abuses rampant aboard convict transports and other passenger vessels travelling from Britain. The First Fleet had been provisioned by the Admiralty itself, and the surgeons on board, led by John White, had an excellent record. From the Second Fleet onwards the task was contracted to private companies, infamously derelict on the Second Fleet itself, and with wildly varying results over the ensuing decade. Following the implementation of this Act, conditions did improve overall, and the casualty rate for convicts sent to New South Wales fell from one in ten between 1795 and 1801 to one in forty-six for the period 1802-1812. One maudlin

result was that British conservatives started to criticise the transports as being too comfortable and therefore a poor deterrent to crime. *Shaw, Convicts and the Colonies pp.115-119.*

\$1550

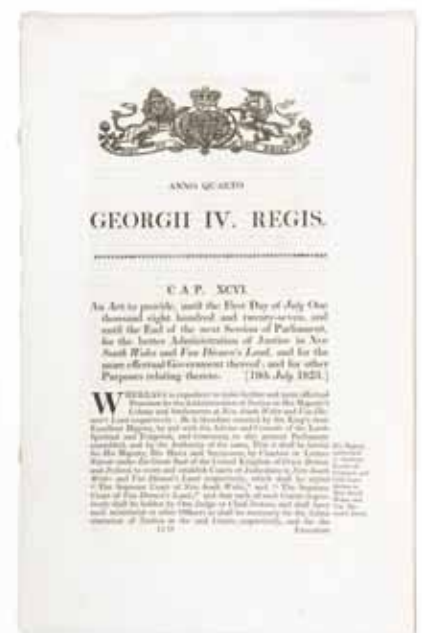
17. **PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN.** An Act to provide for the better Administration of Justice in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land...

*Folio, pp. [1341]-1362, armorial banner heading, fine. London, George Eyre and Andrew Strahan, 19 July 1823.*

This Act makes lawful the power of surgeons aboard convict transports, who are henceforth authorised to effect 'moderate punishment or correction'. In this respect surgeons were to follow existing procedures aboard the hulks, with punishments similar to those 'inflicted by Law on Convicts confined on board Vessels in the River Thames by the Superintendent or Overseer of those vessels.' Unsurprisingly, this new authority raised the prominence of surgeons in naval circles. In addition to the transportation content, this Act is legally significant for establishing the Supreme Court in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, and defining the scope of its powers.

*Ferguson, 914.*

\$600



18. **PRINGLE, Sir John, editor.** A Discourse upon some late improvements of the Means for Preserving the Health of Mariners. Delivered at the Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society, November 30, 1776.



*Small quarto, [iv], 44 pp. with the half-title, woodcut title device and headpiece, leaf C4 a cancel as usual; a very good clean copy in modern green quarter morocco. London, Royal Society, 1776.*

One of the most significant and rarest of all the printed works relating to Cook: the first appearance in print of measures taken against scurvy on the first two voyages. There were several later versions and translations, but this original edition has long been acknowledged as a major rarity. The paper was read to the Royal Society by its president, Sir John Pringle, in the absence of Cook himself who had commenced his third and final voyage. *Beddie, 1290; Holmes, 20; Kroepelien, 1065; Norman sale, 378; Streeter sale, 2410.*

\$44,500

19. **ROUPPE, Ludovic.** De Morbis Navigantium, Liber Unus. Accedit Observatio de Effectu Extracti Cicutae Storkiano in Cancro.

*Octavo, completely uncut, modern half calf. Leiden, Theodore Haak, 1764.*

First edition: an important treatise on the diseases of sailors and their cure. Rouppe, naval physician and surgeon, had travelled widely in the West Indies aboard the Dutch ship *Princesse Carolina*, and based much of this work on observations made during these voyages. He offers a detailed account of the symptoms and treatment of many of the illnesses which were common amongst sailors, including an extended section on the vexed question of scurvy. Rouppe's work also addresses the problem of maintaining the health of sailors whilst subject to local temptations when in port. The book's importance was reflected in its 1772 translation into English.

This copy was once in the famous Wellcome Library, and has their ownership and release stamps.

\$2650

20. **TARDIEU, Ambroise.** Pierre François Keraudren Médecin en chef des Armées navales...

*Engraved portrait, 255 x 195 mm. Paris 1828.*

Fetching portrait of important medical researcher into cholera and scurvy, Pierre François Keraudren. Although Keraudren did not sail with Baudin, he played a formative part in the outfitting of the expedition and penned instructions to preserve the health of the sailors throughout the long expedition. The portrait was engraved by Ambroise Tardieu (1788-1841), an accomplished artist who published a series of portraits of great contemporary scientists including Banks, Volta and Ampère.

\$375





21. **WELD, Charles Richard.** A History of the Royal Society, with Memoirs of the Presidents...

*Two volumes, large octavo, with plates and illustrations; a fine copy in later half calf, spines ornately gilt with double labels. London, John Parker, 1848.*

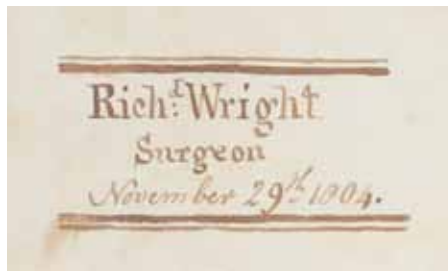
A handsome and beautifully bound copy of the standard early history of the Royal Society, the oldest scientific academy in continuous existence. Weld's book tells the story of the first two centuries; inevitably there is much on Sir Joseph Banks, its most famous early President, whose position at the head of the Society epitomised his role as the great disseminator and pollinator in the sciences. There is considerable material on Cook, including of course Pringle's famous



delivery of his paper on scurvy discoveries, and on other voyagers showing to what extent the Society was involved with geographical discovery and attendant scientific enquiry.

\$1850

22. **WHITE, John.** Journal of a Voyage to New South Wales...



*Quarto, with an engraved title page and 65 engraved plates; old full speckled calf. London, Debrett, 1790.*

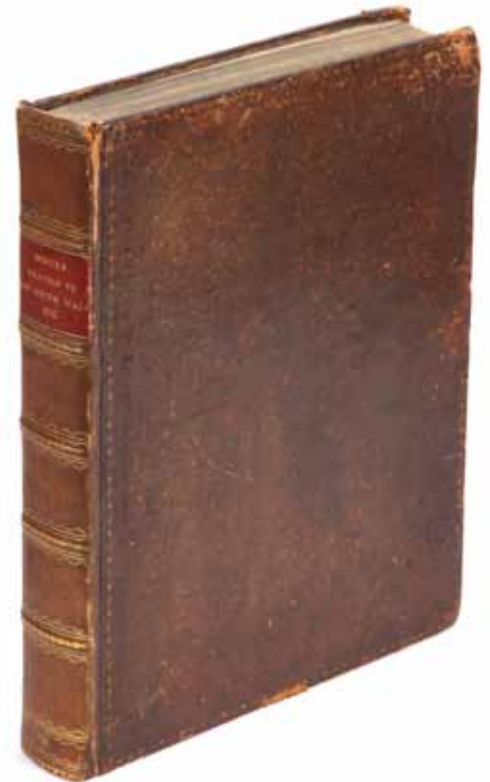
John White was chief surgeon of the First Fleet, and particularly successful in managing both the difficult conditions on the voyage out

and the early years of the settlement. His journal contains an interesting and historically valuable account of the voyage from London, with long, detailed accounts of the stops at Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town and of the colonial voyages to Norfolk Island. White was also a keen amateur naturalist and after arriving at Port Jackson found time to accompany Phillip on two journeys of exploration. Interestingly, this copy is inscribed by a surgeon named Richard Wright and dated November 29th 1804. It is pleasing to see a surgeon's account of the First Fleet owned by another member of the profession.

*Casey Wood, 626; Crittenden, 'A*

*Bibliography of the First Fleet', 248; Davidson, 'A Book Collector's Notes', pp. 81-6; Ferguson, 97.*

\$7250



# Décisions.

15. Mars. 1777.

Toulon.

## Résultat du Conseil de

Marine, assemblé Chez Monsieur le Prévost,  
Créonidhai quinze mille Mil sept Cent. Sixante  
dix sept.

### P.<sup>o</sup> objet.

Précaution contre  
le Scorbut.

Approuvé que les différents membres  
qui composent le Conseil ayent été invités  
à présenter leurs observations sur les  
moyens employés par M. Cook pour  
conserver la santé des gens de mer.

En conséquence de la lettre du Ministre du  
28. février 1777. sous M. le Maréchal de S. Armand a  
fait la lecture. Et du mémoire des moyens employés  
par M. Cook pour conserver la santé de l'équipage  
du V.<sup>o</sup> anglois, la résolution pendant un voyage au  
tour du monde qui a duré trois ans 18 jours.

M.<sup>o</sup> Verquin Chirurgien Major, futur médecin  
ordinaire et Barbier, p.<sup>o</sup> médecin de la marine  
particulièrement appelé, le d.<sup>o</sup> S. Barbier a remis un  
mémoire par lequel il approuve toutes les précautions  
indiquées par M. Cook, auquel il a ajouté quelques  
plusieurs réflexions.

Le Conseil a jugé la matière trop importante  
et susceptible de trop d'observations relativement à la  
Dépense au local, à la différence qu'il y a entre les  
précautions à prendre et provisions à donner à un  
équipage peu nombreux d'un seul Bâtiment, et ce  
qu'il faut pour des gros V.<sup>o</sup> ou une Escadre, a remis  
la délibération au prochain Conseil en invitant les  
membres qui le composent à l'étudier la matière et  
rapporter les observations que leur expérience peut leur  
fournir pour en former un résultat satisfaisant.