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# Symonds Rare Books

Aristotle E-List

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<sup>\*</sup> Image on front cover is item no. 1 (register, explicit and Andrea Torresano's device)

#### FIRST ISSUE OF ARISTOTLE'S OPERA PRINTED IN EIGHT PARTS BY TORRESANO





**1. ARISTOTLE** (AVERROES, Comm.; VERNIA, Nicoletto, Ed.). *Opera*. [Contents: Praedicamenta, De interpretatione, Analytica priora (Tr: Boethius); Analytica posteriora (Tr: James of Venice); Topica, Sophistici elenchi (Tr: Boethius) - with - **PORPHYRIUS**: Isagoge in Aristotelis Praedicamenta (Tr: Boethius)].

Venice,...Andree de asula Bartholomeique alexandrini sociorum impressos, 1st Feb. 1483.

£15,000

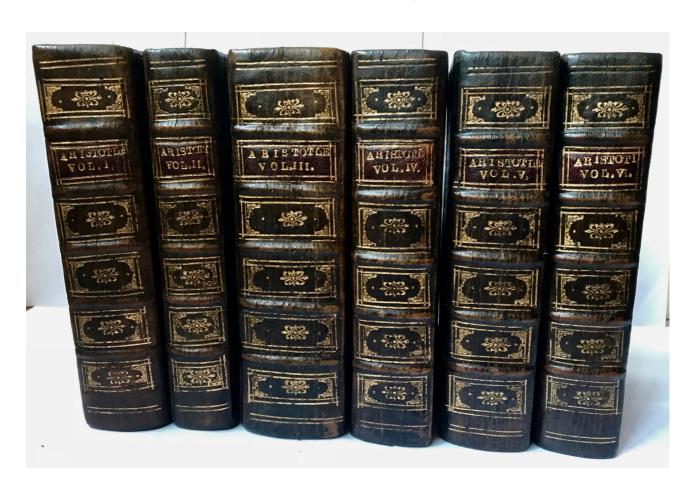
FIRST EDITION thus. Royal Folio. 117 leaves (of 118, lacking only blank q10), a-b<sup>6</sup> c<sup>4</sup> d<sup>10</sup> e<sup>6</sup> f<sup>10</sup> g-k<sup>6</sup> l<sup>8</sup> m<sup>6</sup> n<sup>8</sup> o-p<sup>6</sup> q<sup>10</sup> r<sup>8</sup>, double column, gothic letter in two sizes, 66 lines and headlines, initial blank spaces, beautiful woodcut printer's device printed in red to final text f. (r8). Occasional early ink marginalia throughout, extensive annotations, neat and clear, on the first leaves of the Posterior Analytics (K5, K6 and L1); lightly browned and stained, a few wormholes, affecting part of one or two letters on several ff., occasional foxing or spotting, a few stains, some marginal repairs, especially to upper gutters, old wooden boards, re-backed in antique style calf, lacking clasps, upper corners of boards worn, some worming, rubbed. A fine and clean copy overall, with wide margins.

Rare. First in a series of separately issued parts of Aristotle's Opera by the Venice-based printers Bartolomeo de Blavis and Andrea Torresano. A pupil of Nicolas Jenson, Torresano was Aldus's son-in-law and became his collaborator from 1508 onwards.

Averroes was an Andalusian Muslim polymath. Some consider him the founding father of secular thought in Western Europe, who played an essential role in contributing to the transmission and understanding of the thought of the great Greek philosopher. His thorough commentaries upon Aristotle's works have informed the medieval scholarly traditions within the European universities and the theological elaborations of Scholasticism.

Goff A962, GKW 2337. Renouard 284:3. Stillwell, Awakening Interest in Science 736 n. Klebs 82:2. Bernoni 271:14 "importante edizione". Not in BMC XV.

#### A VERY IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE EDITION, RARELY FOUND COMPLETE



**2. ARISTOTLE**. [Opera Omnia] *Aristotelis Omnem logicam, rhetoricam, et poeticam disciplinam continens, tomus I* [-VI]

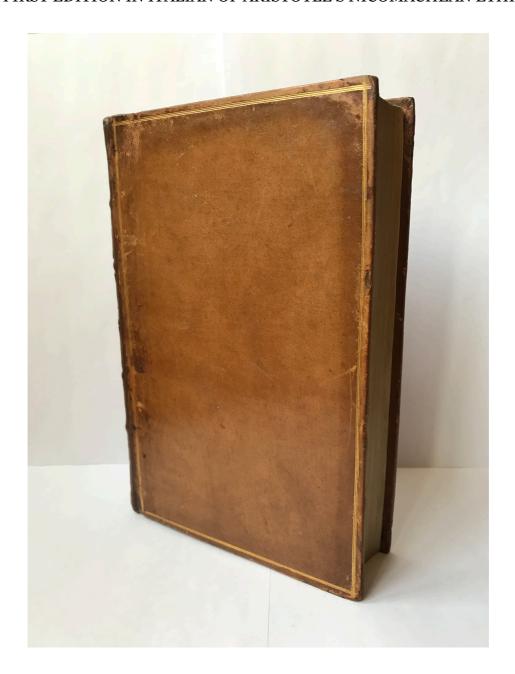
Venice, apud Aldi filios, expensis nobilis viri Federici de Turrisanis eorum auunculi, 1551.

8vo. vols 6, all lacking initial leaf (i.e. title pages): Titles: Aristotelis omnem logicam, rhetoricam, et poeticam disciplinam continens, Tomus I. (1551); Aristotelis De physica auscultatione, De coelo, De mundo ad Alex., De generatione et corruptione, et Meteorologicam disciplinam continens, Tomus II. (1551); Aristotelis De historia animalium disciplinam et reliquos huic disciplinae agnatos libros continens, Tomus III. (1553); Aristotelis Problemata cum Alex. Aphrodis. Probl. et mechanica, et metaphysices disciplinam continens, Tomus IIII. (1552); Aristotelis Moralia magna, et Moralia Eudem. et Moralia Nicomach. et Rei familiaris, civilis que disciplinam continens, Tomus V. (1552); Theophrastus. Theophrasti Historiam de plantis, et De causis plantarum, et quosdam alios ipsius libros continens, Tomus VI. (1552). Greek type, a little Roman. Decorated initials, large woodcut diagram on p. 122 of vol. 1, occasional early marginalia and underlining. Printer's device on each t-p (here unfortunately wanting, as stated above) and also at end of each volume, except for vol. 3, which is complete without the final Aldine anchor. Light age yellowing to margins and occasional waterstaining. In early calf binding over boards with gilt ruled double fillet. Skilfully rebacked, perfectly blending in with the covers. Gilt spine in compartments with author's name and volume numbers on red morocco labels. Bookplate showing the crest of the Clan Scott on pastedowns. A clean, fresh copy, unfortunately slightly incomplete.

This most excellent and rare Aldine collection of Aristotle's works printed in a handy 8vo format was the result of the erudite philological work of Federico Torresano. The brother of Giovanni Francesco and Maria, who married Aldo Manuzio the Elder, the "prince" of the Renaissance printers, Federico was son to Andrea Torresano the Elder, who trained in Nicolas Jenson's workshop and then became Aldo's first partner in business, together with Francesco Barbarigo. Federico was a learned editor of Ancient Greek and Latin authors and a successful printer active in Venice between 1538 and 1561. He married Paola, sister to Aldo. Besides editing several publications of classics, he took part in a printing enterprise called the Company of the Crown, which was devoted to the edition of law books, in association with other major families of printers active in Venice at the time, such as Gunti, Scoto, and Giolito de Ferrari.

Adams, I, 1733; Goldsmid, p. 48: "a very valuable edition, rarely found complete".

#### FIRST EDITION IN ITALIAN OF ARISTOTLE'S NICOMACHEAN ETHICS



3. ARISTOTLE (SEGNI, Bernardo, Tr. and Comm.). L'Ethica

Florence, appresso Lorenzo Torrentino, 1550.

£3,000

FIRST EDITION. 4to, pp. 547 (xiii), a-z<sup>4</sup> A-Z<sup>4</sup> Aa-Zz<sup>4</sup> AA<sup>4</sup>. Roman and Italic letter, the sporadic Greek word. Title within full-page architectonical border, an elegant portico with view of the city of Florence and the coat of arms of de Medici family at top. Large decorated initials and several diagrams throughout, sometimes full page. Margin edges at foot of last few gatherings slightly affected by some dampstaining, absolutely negligible. A fresh, crisp

and extremely clean volume bound in C18th gilt-ruled speckled calf, rebacked and lightly rubbed on covers and along edges. Richly gilt spine, cracked and skilfully repaired, with red morocco label. A very fine copy.

Bernardo Segni (1504-58) was born to an old and wealthy family of Florentine merchants. He studied letters and law at the University of Padua and he then entered in the service of the duke of Florence Cosimo I de Medici, carrying out a number of diplomatic postings in Europe. He was ambassador at the court of the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand I. He translated into vernacular Sophocles's Oedipus, Aristotle's Poetics and Politics (Florence 1549), and the present book, which is the Nicomachean Ethics of the great Greek philosopher, published in 1550. This is the first Segni edition, the first "full vernacular interpretation of Aristotle, including both translation and chapterby-chapter commentary" (Lines, "Rethinking Renaissance Aristotelianism", in Renaissance Quarterly, 66.3, Fall 2013, p. 838). "Practically unstudied, Segni's work represents an important moment in the evolution of vernacular Aristotelianism (and philosophy more generally) in the Renaissance' (idem, p. 824). However, the humanist Segni is best known as an historian. He wrote Istorie fiorentine (1527-1555) in fifteen books and Vita de Niccolo Capponi, who was his uncle. In his introduction to the Ethics, Segni exalts the Tuscan language and underlines the need for vernacular editions of Greek and Latin texts; he quotes frequently from Dante throughout his commentary. He also draws extensively on the earlier commentary tradition, including the works of Byzantine scholar Eustratius (c.1050-1121), English scholastic philosopher Walter Burley (c.1275-1344/45) and the fifteenth-century Florentine erudite, Donato Acciaiuoli (1429-1478). Written at the height of the Counter-Reformation, during the Council of Trent, another notable feature of Segni's interpretation is the frequent reference to Catholic doctrine, at the implied expense of Lutheran teachings. The first vernacular edition of the Nicomachean Ethics was a French translation by Nicolas Oresme, printed in 1488.

EDIT16 2929; USTC 810926; COPAC records copies at the British Library, Bodleian Library, John Rylands Library, Cathedral Libraries and the National Trust, Cardiff University, National Library of Scotland, UCL and the Warburg Institute.

#### 4. ARISTOTLE (SEGNI, Bernardo, tr.). Trattato dei governi

Venice, per Bartholomeo detto l'Imperador, & Francesco suo genero, 1551.

£1500

8vo, ff. 230 (xviii), a-z<sup>8</sup> A-H<sup>8</sup>, 247 of 248 leaves, lacking final blank. Italic letter, a little Roman. Elegant full-page illustration on t-p with title within a shield framed by architectural portico, which is decorated with putti, figures and floral elements. Decorated

initials and capital spaces with guide-letters. Library bookplate of Noël Pinelli on front pastedown. Blank t-p verso with early autograph of "Giovanni Messer Cantucci"(?) heavily crossed out in ink, appearing also on final leaf underneath the register without strikethrough. The early heavy ink strikethrough damaged and holed a small area of the t-p, also spotting the first historiated initial of the text. T-p soiled, wearing to margins, which slightly affect the illustration. Quire D and E quite browned, some spotting and light age yellowing throughout. In early limp vellum with ink title and library label to spine. A nice copy with good clean margins, despite the light foxing of gathering D and E, and the worn title page.



Third edition (first printed in 1547) of this Italian translation in Florentine vernacular of Aristotle's Politics, which is dedicated to Cosimo de' Medici. Bernardo Segni was a historian, diplomat and Hellenist who also translated into Italian Aristotle's Ethics.

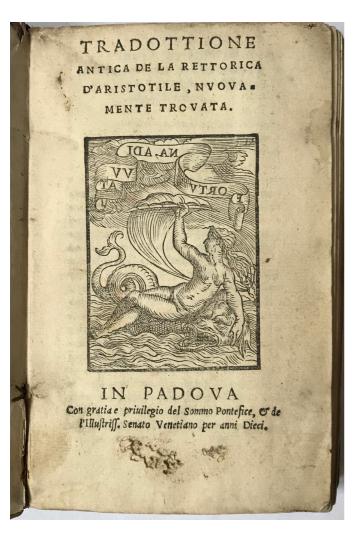
Adams, A-1922. Graesse, I, 218. Not in BM STC.

#### 5. ARISTOTLE (FIGLIUCCI, Felice, Ed.). Tradottione antica de la Rettorica

Padua, per M. Giacomo Fabriano, 1548.

£1600

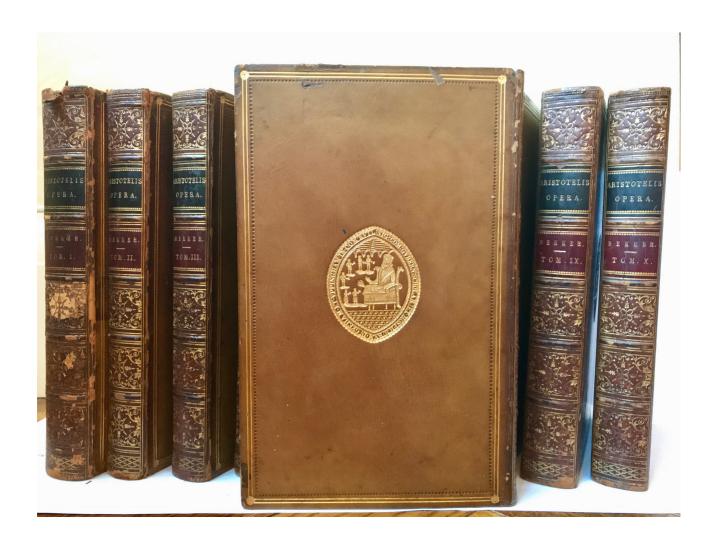
8vo, ff. (viii) 184, a<sup>8</sup> A-Z<sup>8</sup>. Large vignette on title page with personification of the goddess Fortune (a nude female body reclining on a dolphin at sea and holding a swelled sail). Italic, a little Roman. Capital spaces with small guide-letters. A few handwritten maniculae. title soiled, wormholes and tracking slightly affecting the lower inside part of the front cover, foot margin of t-p and first two leaves without text loss. Pages lightly browned to margins, rare light waterstains. Ink title on spine, rubbed caps, slightly damaged. In early limp vellum with yapp edges, remains of ties.



Felice Figliucci (1518-1595) was an Italian humanist, philosopher, and theologian. Born in Siena, he studied philosophy at the University of Padua, where he learned Platonism and Aristotelianism, joining these two thoughts as in the humanistic tradition estab<del>l</del>ished by Marsilio Ficino and Pico della Mirandola, which effected the sixteenthcentury Christian Neoplatonism. He devoted a good deal of his carrier to the edition of Ficino's works. He was for a time in the service of Cardinal G. M. Ciocchi Del Monte, afterwards Pope Julius III. promoted the Tuscan language and fostered its use in the translation of classics, considering it no less worthy than Latin. He attended the Council of Trent, which was transferred to Bologna in 1547, giving him so the opportunity to visit Padua frequently and work on his Tradottione, which was a present to his patron Del Monte. According to a spread literary topos of the time, in the preface to the work, this translation is given by Figliucci as the result of the learned efforts of an anonymous writer from Siena.

USTC 810889; EDIT16 2926.

#### A SET OF ELEVEN VOLUMES IN A LOVELY BINDING



#### **6. ARISTOTLE** (BEKKER, Immanuel, ed.). *Opera*.

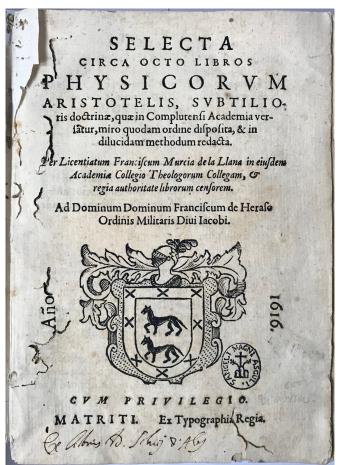
Oxford, e Typographeo Academico, 1837.

£950

Large 8vo, vols. XI. Greek type, a very little Roman. Text altogether clean and tight, with sporadic underlining and annotations on margins; this is the first printing of the Oxford edition. Elegant marbled fore-edges and pastedowns. Library number stamped at bottom of title page and label on verso of front flyleaf: "Ex Libris Monasterii Beatae Mariae Virginis De Worth"; bookplate at centre of front pastedown (a lion with a cross in his paw and motto "crux tutela mei"). In gilt ruled leather binding with elaborate gilt tooled crest of the Uppingham School in the centre of covers. Labels in black and red morocco to gilt spine. Lightly worn and rubbed at joints, spine caps, and cover edges. A lovely complete set in very good condition.

The classical philologist August Immanuel Bekker (1785–1871) edited an enormous array of classical authors. Anything like a complete list of his works would occupy too much space, but it may be said that his industry extended to nearly the whole of Greek literature with the exception of the tragedians and lyric poets. His best-known editions are those of Plato (1816–1823), Oratores Attici (1823–1824), Aristotle (1831–1836), Aristophanes (1829), and twenty-five volumes of the Corpus Scriptorum Historiae Byzantinae. The only Latin authors edited by him were Livy (1829–1830) and Tacitus (1831). The Bekker numbers are the standard form of reference to works in the Corpus Aristotelicum. These are based on the page numbers used in the Prussian Academy of Sciences edition of the complete works of Aristotle (Aristotelis Opera edidit Academia Regia Borussica, Berlin, 1831–1870). The present collection of eleven volumes in an outstanding condition and beautiful binding is the revised version of Bekker's works of Aristotle printed in Oxford in 1837.

**7. MURCIA DE LA LLANA, Francisco**. Selecta circa octo libros physicorum Aristotelis, subtilioris doctrinae, quae in Complutensi academia versatur,...



Madrid, Ex Typographia Regia, 1616.

£450

4to, pp. (12) 632, ¶4 2¶4 A-Z<sup>8</sup> 2A-2Q<sup>8</sup> 2R<sup>4</sup>. Roman letter, some Italic. Woodcut vignette on title page, double-column text, head- and tailpieces. Ms. ex libris on front flyleaf and title, library stamp of the Church of Sant'Angelo Magno in Ascoli Piceno (Marche, Italy). Light age yellowing and browning and occasional spotting. Heavily wormed throughout along gutter and lower margin with frequent loss of letters. Bound in early limp vellum, ink title to spine, headcap partially torn, fragile hinges and a few small wormholes on covers and spine.

Palau no. 185993-II. Not in BM STC.

