



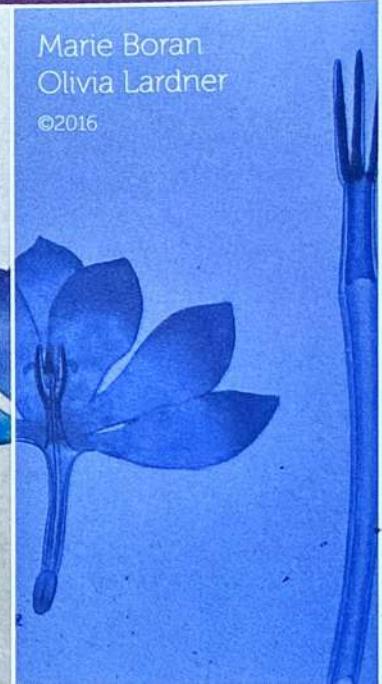
OILEACUHLAINN  
LIBRARY  
An Leabharlann  
Library



# James Hardiman Library

## Highlights from our Special Collections

Marie Boran  
Olivia Lardner  
©2016



# IRLANDE ROYAUME

divisé en ses quatre  
PROVINCES, et  
ces Prov<sup>ces</sup> en leurs Comtés.

Par le S<sup>r</sup>. SANSON d'Abbeville  
Geogr. ord<sup>r</sup>e de SA MAJESTÉ.

A PARIS

Chez PIERRE MARIETTE  
Rue St-Jacques a l'Esperance  
Avecq Privilège pour Vingt Ans.  
1665.

OCEAN OCCIDEN<sup>z</sup>

Nicholas Sanson, Irlande Royaume (Paris, 1665)



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# Foreword

Fáilte go dtí ceiliúradh na mBailiúchán Speisialta den scoth atá againn anseo i Leabharlann Shéarnais Uí Argadáin. Tá aistear iontach foghlama amach romhat, agus áireofar ar an aistear sin éagsúlacht ábhar agus formáidí mar aon le réimse doiciméad agus foilseachán a chuirfidh iontas ar fhormhór na léitheoirí. Airím mé féin ina measc siúd a raibh iontas orthu agus mé ag cur eolas ar a shaibhre is atá ár gcuid bailiúchán agus ar na scéalta a bhaineann leo le linn dom a bheith ag léamh trí na leathanaigh seo.

Welcome to this celebration of the magnificent special collections in the James Hardiman Library. A voyage of discovery lies in store, taking in a variety of subjects and formats and a range of documents and publications which will surprise most readers. I include myself among the surprised as I learned of both the richness of our collections and the stories behind them while I read through these pages.

Books today can seem like a commodity but this very readable survey of the Library's special collections brings its books to life. It is exciting to rediscover the book as an object of beauty, often superbly bound and illustrated, cherished by its original collector and delivering many insights into the lives, interests and thoughts of its owner or indeed owners. A great spread of countries, languages and dates of publication is evident too. And yet the more immediate locality is prominent too, with much to learn about the history of this University, including collections for subjects no longer in vogue as well as for those that have endured since its foundation. Our region is also very well represented, particularly in the map and newspaper collections.

As a Library we take great pride in our special collections and embrace the responsibility of preserving them and making them available to enable both an understanding of the past and the creation of new knowledge. We are fortunate to house these collections and to provide access to them in the splendid Hardiman Research Building at the heart of our campus. Visitors to that building can enjoy exhibitions, lectures and the support of expert staff. Selective digitisation enables wider and sometimes enhanced access, while cataloguing projects have resulted in more detailed descriptive records on our online catalogue in many cases.

These collections have been built over a period of more than 170 years, thanks to the generosity of many donors and the dedication of generations of librarians, academic staff and indeed University administrators who have made the necessary funding available. More recently, the support of Galway University Foundation has been significant and much appreciated.

Congratulations to Marie Boran and Olivia Lardner on selecting so wisely from the many volumes available and on describing with such insight and expertise the significance of each. We owe both authors a debt of gratitude for creating in this publication a delightful experience of enjoyment and learning.

**John Cox**

Leabharlannaí na hOllscoile - University Librarian

NUI Galway

## Collecting the Library

The Library had its beginning at the foundation of the University in the late 1840s. James Hardiman (1782-1855) (pictured), a noted historian and antiquarian, was appointed to the post of librarian by the first President of the University, Reverend Joseph Kirwan. In his report to the Lord Lieutenant as President of the College, Fr.



Kirwan throws some light on the circumstances surrounding the early beginnings of this centre of learning. He mentions that 'the examination hall and the rooms allotted to the Library are handsome and extensive'. In addition, he indicates that a sum of £3000 had been allocated to provide for "libraries, apparatus etc." and £1500 of this had been spent on books. "We have endeavoured, as far as the limited sum permitted, to provide the Library with those works most essentially necessary in the different branches of learning. Many departments are still not adequately provided for." At Christmas 1849, his friend, the antiquarian John O'Donovan (1809-1861), asked Hardiman in a letter whether

he had "procured any books for the 'godless' library?" This was a reference to the fact that the country's Catholic bishops had frowned upon the establishment of the Queen's colleges as 'godless colleges'! From the President's reports over the next few years it would seem that Hardiman had plenty of difficulties to contend with as Librarian. The college's buildings were not being completed and funds were insufficient for the purchase of necessary equipment and materials. Things seemed to improve somewhat after Hardiman's death in 1855: the 1856 report of Dr. Edward Berwick, who had succeeded Kirwan as President, specifically mentions the library and its improved state, and the "stillness and order which prevail showing that the readers are evidently bent upon the acquisition of knowledge!"

Hardiman was succeeded as Librarian by John Richardson, who produced the first printed catalogue of the collections in 1864. It is a 288-page work arranged alphabetically by author, with entries noting title, size, place and date of publication, and shelf number. The library contained something in the region of 6500 titles then. The first catalogue arranged broadly by subject, entitled *A series of alphabetical catalogues of books contained in the Library of Queen's College, Galway arranged according to Departments*, was produced by Richardson's successor, D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson (1829-1902) in 1877, and dealt with twenty-five departments and two reference collections. The final printed catalogue of the library's collections

was produced in 1913 by Valentine Steinberger (pictured), Librarian and Professor of German from 1902. Steinberger's is by far the most extensive catalogue and contains a detailed prefatory note on his methodology. Titles are arranged under seventeen subject areas, with additional sections entitled Reference Library and Journals. Steinberger followed the example of his predecessors in arranging the books by author, though he gives greater prominence to the shelf number. This is probably because the catalogue provided details of c. 18,000 titles in regular stock as well as upwards of another 1000 reference titles.



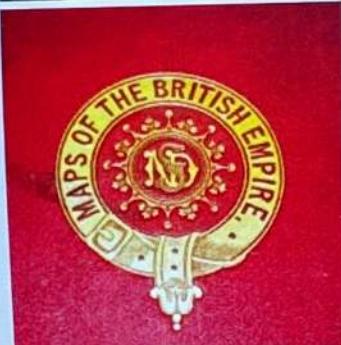
The subject areas in each of these catalogues are broadly similar and covered the main areas of teaching and scholarly research in the university at the time. These included Anatomy, Architecture and Engineering, Botany, Celtic Studies, Chemistry, Classics, English Literature, Ethics and Divinity, Geology, Law, Jurisprudence and Political Science, Logic and Metaphysics, Medicine and its branches, Modern History, Modern Languages, Philology, Physics, Political Economy, Obstetrics, Surgery and Zoology.

The Library continued to be augmented throughout the 20th century, though the emphasis on subject areas has ebbed and flowed over time. Agriculture, for example, which had been prominent in the early years, waned as the 20th century progressed. Some disciplines came and went. Dentistry, for instance, was taught between the 1940s and 1970s, but is not well represented in the collections now. Acquisition was, as now, frequently influenced by economic factors. Peaks and troughs are evident in materials represented in the collections, especially in the mid-20th century. Today, we maintain the collections which have grown since our 19th century beginnings, as well as a representative collection of materials acquired for both teaching and research in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. We are also committed to collecting printed materials into the future, as outlined in the Library's Collections Policy.

# Donated and Named Collections

In addition to stock acquired by purchase, the Library has been the recipient of many donated collections. In most instances, a decision has been made to shelf the titles in each individual collection together. In the case of a collection assembled over the lifetime of one individual, this can be particularly useful in tracking both the collecting habits of that individual and the developments in the teaching and research of the subject areas which interested them. An excellent example of this is the library of Séamus Ó Duilearga (James Hamilton Delargy), first Director of the Irish Folklore Commission, whose personal library was purchased by the University in 1981. The collection numbers over 4000 items and represents a significant printed repository of works on both Irish and European folklore from the 20th century. The Henry Library, held on long-term loan by Special Collections from the Church of Ireland diocese of Tuam, Killala and Achonry, is another example. The nucleus of this collection, which contains over 4500 volumes, is the library of the Tuam clergyman Joseph Henry (1821-1884). While a significant proportion of the books are religious in nature, the Henry Library also contains historical and literary works and a good deal of 19<sup>th</sup> century travel writing. The significance of imperialism during Henry's lifetime is evident in items like *Maps of the British Empire*.

*Maps illustrative of the physical, political, and historical geography of the British Empire: for the use of schoolmasters, pupil-teachers, and the upper classes of schools* / National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church. (London: National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor, 185-?). Henry Library.



The Donated and Named Collections contain books on many and varied topics including Film, Folklore, History, Literature, Religion, Theatre and Travel. Details on these collections can be found on our Special Collections web pages.

# 'Beyond Words': The Individuality of a Special Collections Item

We are all living in an age of mass production. Scan any library or bookshop shelf and every copy of an edition is the same. Digitised, printed and stitched in a one-stop publishing shop, outside of private presses such as Cuala and Dolmen, the scope for uniqueness largely ceased to exist with the advent of the production line. With Special Collections, however, the narrative of a book's history can at times be of more interest than its subject matter, and the possibility of individuality increases with time. Before the advent of streamlined workflows, someone made the paper, another printed the book, someone bound/rebound it, someone sold it, someone bought it and several read it. Each of these individual 'agents' have left their mark, and these combined render Special Collections items *more than just the text on their leaves*; they are artefacts in themselves. One of many such examples is afforded by our copy of the *Confessiones* of St. Augustine (1470). Unidentified watermarks populate its leaves – whilst the item's printer has been identified through its typeface. It bears the near contemporary mark of the Franciscan library in Regensburg, along with marginal notes and manicules throughout in several hands (and centuries perhaps). It has been expertly bound, and possibly trimmed, by the 19<sup>th</sup> century Dublin bookbinder Gerald Bellew of Grafton Street. No longer is it simply a copy St. Augustine's autobiography, but rather a **unique product** of its own history. As we move into this age of digital content, one in which the death of the physical format of the book has been forecasted, these unique histories, which question the concept that books are passive vessels for the transmission of text, come into their own.

## The Printer

Before modern mechanisation, book production was a slow process, and the scope for differences in the manual typesetting and hand-stitching of individual copies of the same work was great. Given the labour involved, printers were understandably eager to guarantee their livelihoods. Early printed books and incunabula, therefore, often bear a printer's device, essentially the trademark of a particular craftsman, employed to deter forgery. With items dating back to the mid 15<sup>th</sup> century, the mottoes, motifs and pictorial embellishments that constitute these devices, along with the imaginative initials, head- and tailpieces which pepper texts, are a collection in themselves, and a thoroughly under-researched one at that.

A *small* selection of printers' devices from Special Collections, demonstrating the wide variety of sizes, styles and effort employed.





A wide variety of sizes, styles and effort can also be seen in the headpieces (above) and tailpieces (below) used by printers.

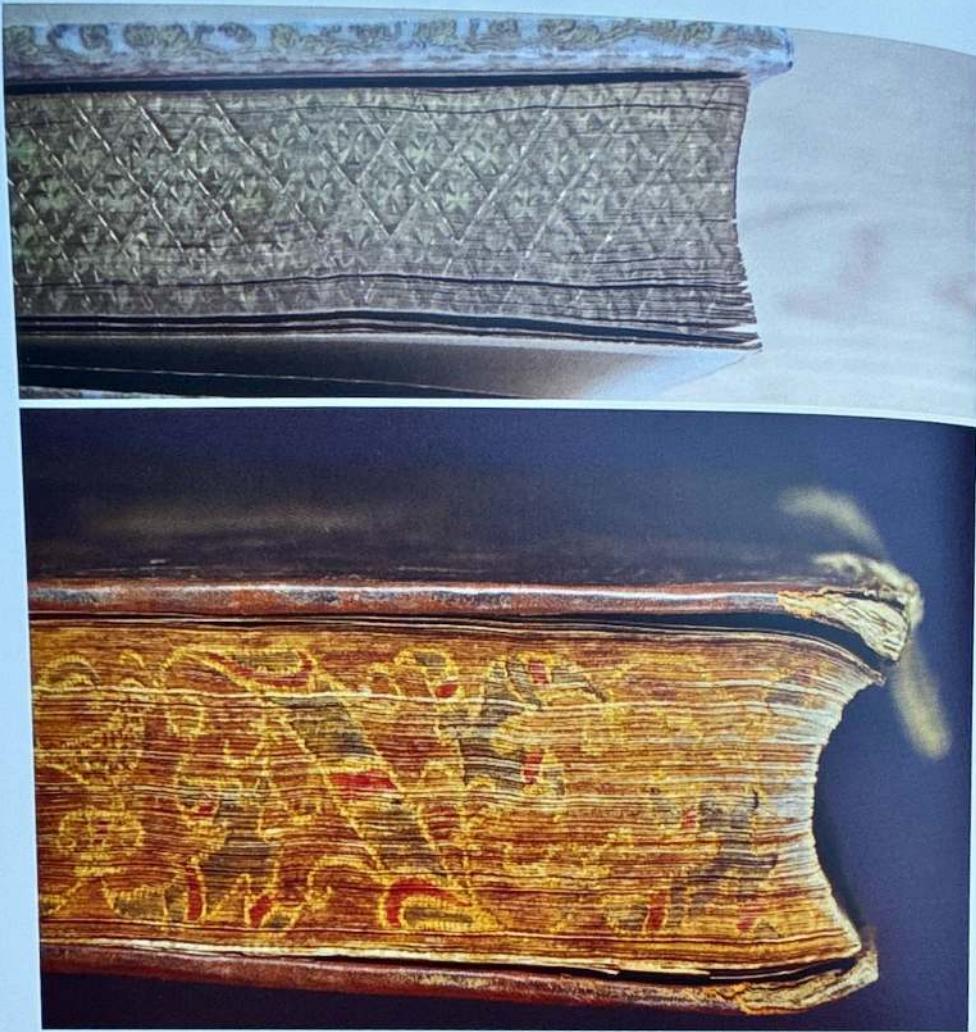
The foliated and historiated initials used to introduce text range from the whimsical to the symbolic.

## The Bookbinder

As stitched quires left a printer's workshop, already displaying distinctively individual characteristics, they were bound to the tastes of their new owners, and often rebound through time as original materials degraded and fashions changed. The styles of bookbindings in Special Collections range from blind-tooled velvet and fragile sheepskin to simple stabbed quires and alum-tawed pigskin, with plenty of 19th century cloth bindings acquired for the university's first scholars. The bookbinders responsible for these works can be difficult to identify as they were considered tradesmen and rarely signed their work, but as with printers and their devices, bookbinders used bespoke tools to impress designs on binding materials, and scholarship on the identification of the toolmarks unique to each bookbinder is growing.

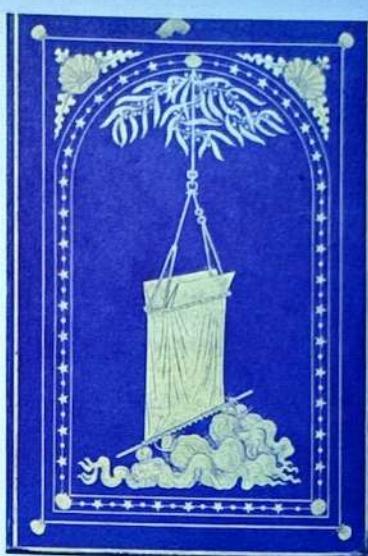
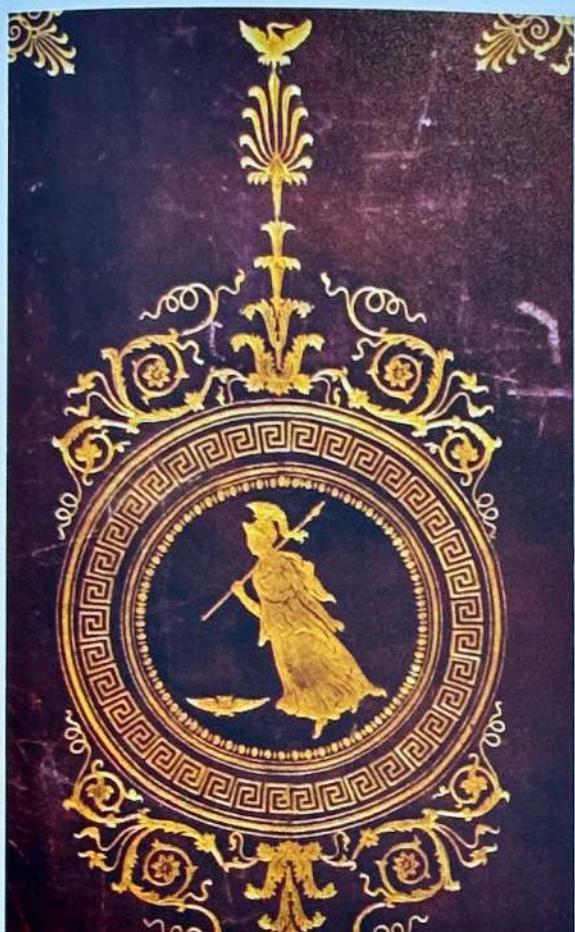
The gauffered and gilt edges of *Arithmetorum libri sex*. (Tolosæ: Excudebat Bernardvs Bosc, è regione Collegij Societatis Iesu, 1670). Old Library Collection.

The painted gilt edges of an unsigned Spanish armorial binding covering Juan de Pineda's *Monarchia ecclesiastica*. (En Salamanca : Iuan Fernandez, 1588). King's Inns Collection.



An example of an exquisite unsigned binding comes from the sizeable Delargy Collection. Its *de luxe* nature portrays wealth and flamboyance. The binding depicts Athena (Minerva) and her owl within a Greek key roll frame, reflecting the 18th century revival of classicism, and is typical in bearing no relation whatsoever to the item's subject matter.

This lack of association between subject matter and decoration was quite common in early bookbinding, and it remained the case until cloth bindings of the 19th century began to reflect subject matter.

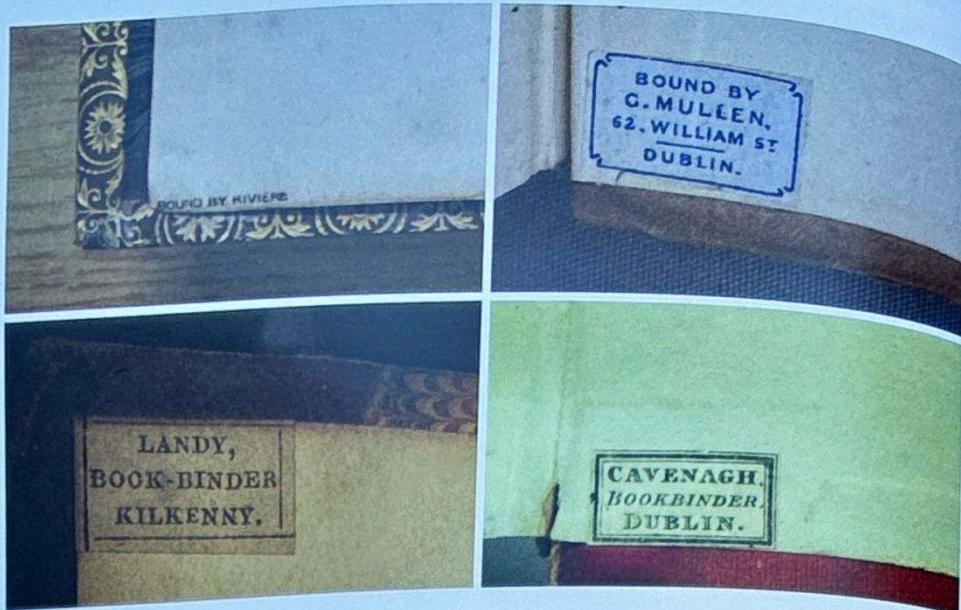


(Left) *The depths of the sea* / C. Thomson (1830-1882). (London: Macmillan, 1873). King's Inns Collection.

(Far left) *Heimskringla edr Noregs konunga-sögor* / Snorri Sturluson (1179?-1241). (Havniæ: Typis Augusti Friderici Steinii, 1777-1826). Delargy Collection.

Colourful pastedowns adorn Venuti's *Collectanea antiquitatum Romanarum*. (Romæ: Ex typographia Rochi Bernabò, 1736). Old Library Collection.

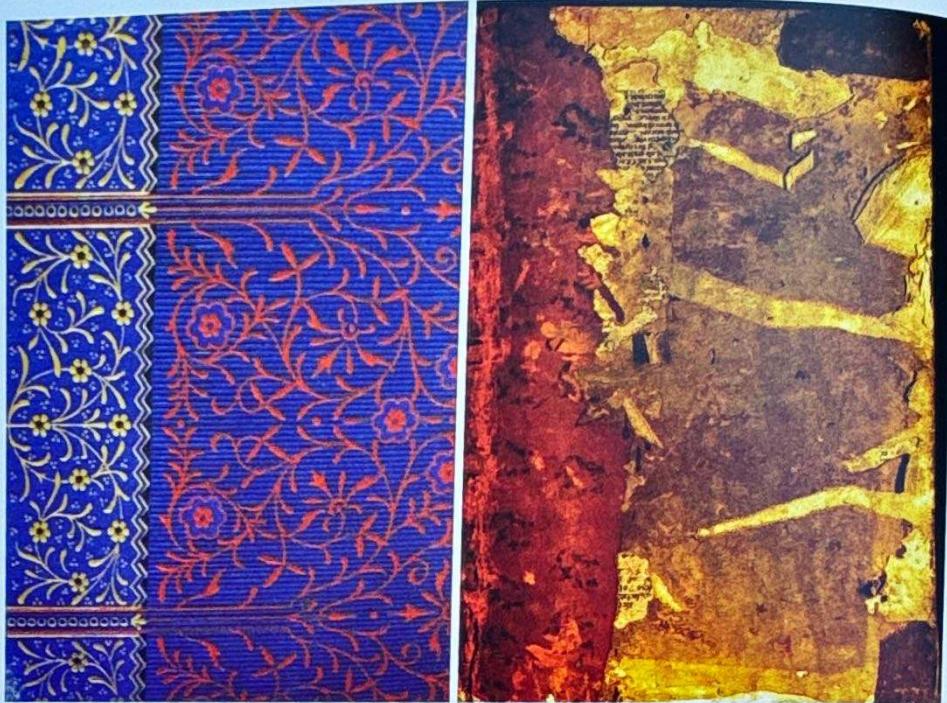
In the 18th century, bookbinders began to sign their work, admittedly on an ad-hoc basis, using labels (tickets) or stamps in ink, gilt or blind-tooling.



The materials used to strengthen bookbindings have their own histories and the potential for exciting discoveries:

(Right) An eye-catching cloth binding from the late 19th century by Smith Bros. of Ivy Lane. **Delargy Collection.**

(Far right) Waste material showing through the degraded binding of Pope Gregory I's *Opera. (Parisiis: Compagnie de la Grand-Navire, 1605)*. **St. Anthony's Special Collections.**

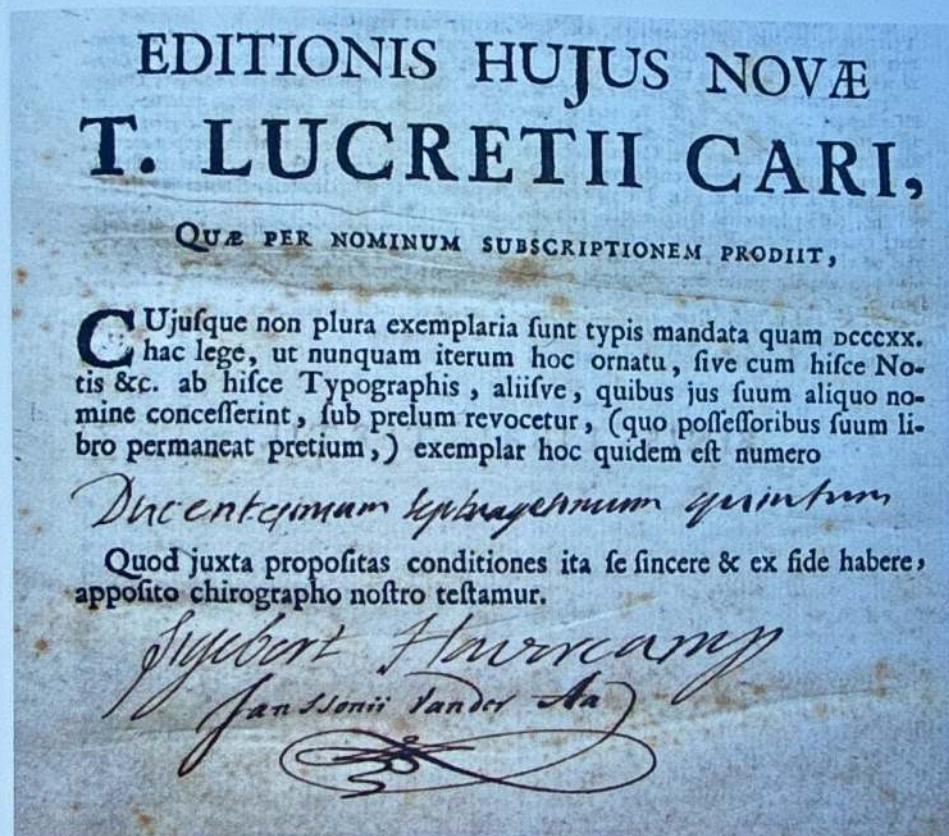


## The Bookseller

At the top left-hand corner of a front pastedown, or more rarely, on a spine or front cover, you might find affixed a small label. Oftentimes bearing just the scantest of detail, booksellers' labels are invaluable in tracing an item's journey from printer's workshop to Special Collections.



This edition of *De rerum natura liber 6* by Titus Lucretius Carus (Lugduni Batavorum: Apud Janssonios Van Der Aa, 1725.) is no. 275 of 820 copies produced. Very unusually, it is signed by its publisher and bookseller.



## Former Owners

Tracing the provenance of Special Collections items through the diverse clues provided (signatures, initials, stamps, bookplates, armorial detail, ex-libris, prize labels) can be hampered by ownership mark effacement, illegibility, and sparing detail.

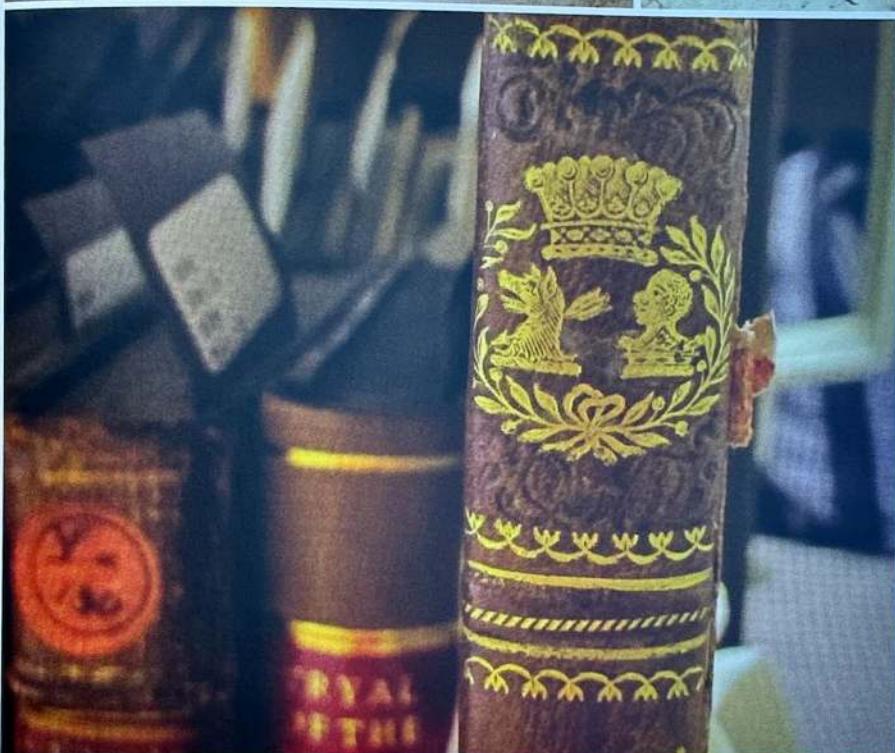
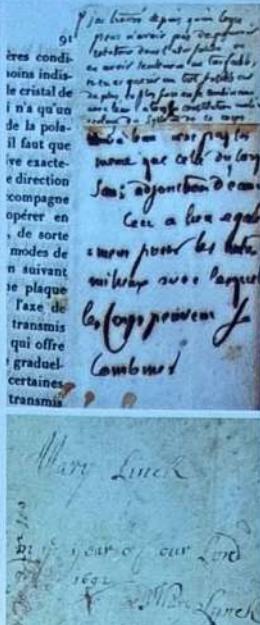
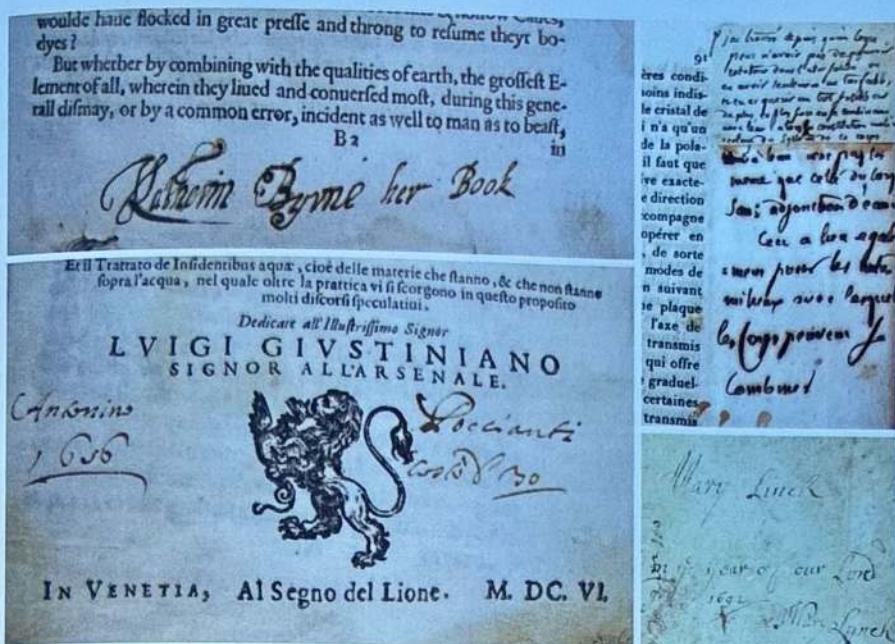
(Right) *Principia philosophiæ* / René Descartes (1596-1650). (Amstelodami: Ludovicum & Danielem Elzevirios, 1656). Old Library Collection.

(Far right) *De occulta philosophia libri tres* / Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa von Nettesheim (1486?-1535). (S.l. : s.n., 1533)

*Scutum fidei contra hæreses hodiernas* / Francis Martin. (Lovanii: Apud Michaelem Zangrium, 1714). St. Anthony's Special Collections.



The modest former owner of *Scutum fidei contra haereses hodiernas* left very little in the way of markings (Lower left), unlike some...



Safficee molide  
di errori occisi nella stampa; sono stati levati  
di mano chi me Art.º Martinus regi.

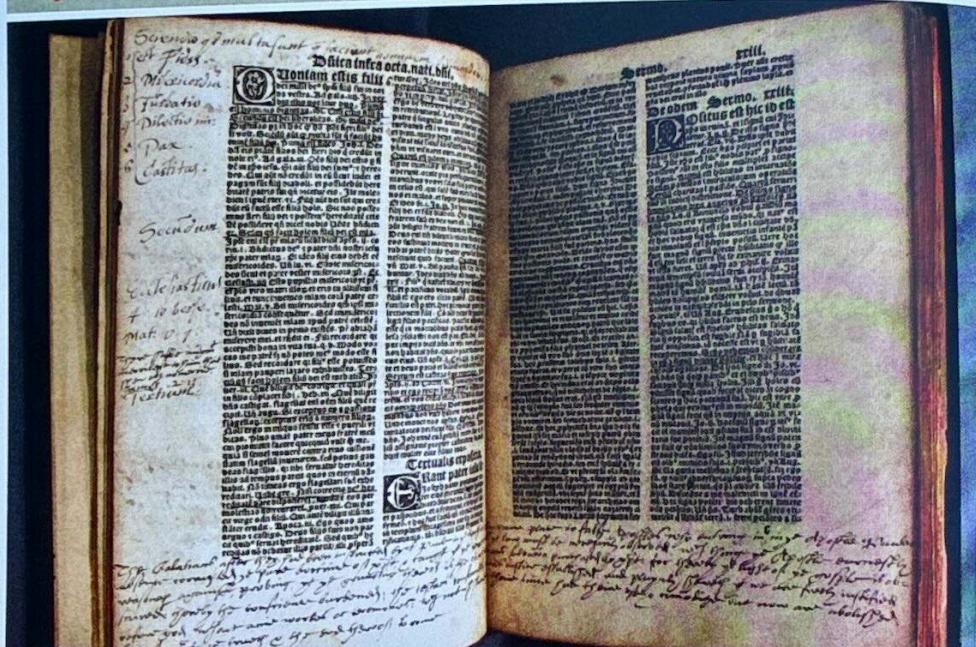
Very similar to Malebranche's theory: however the illustration used by Malebranche shows the distinction

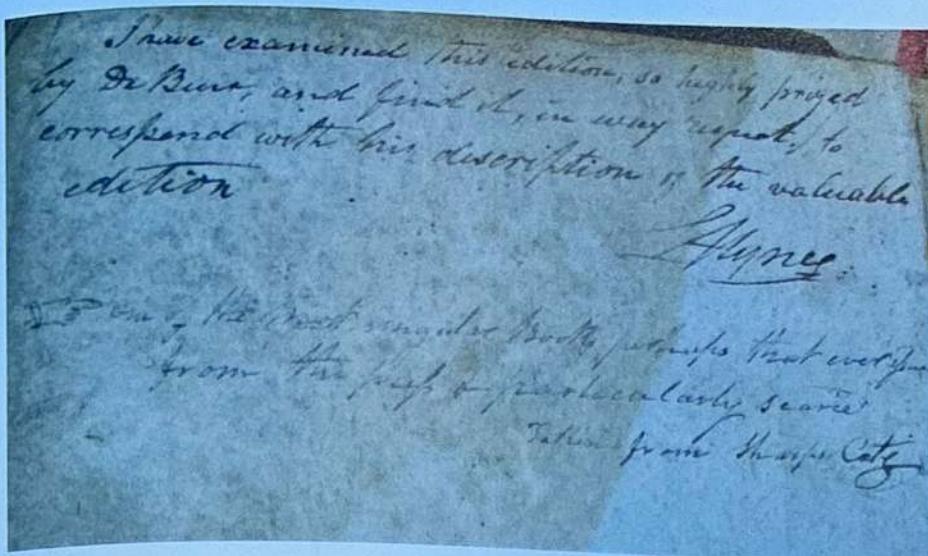
DE NATURA DEORUM

12

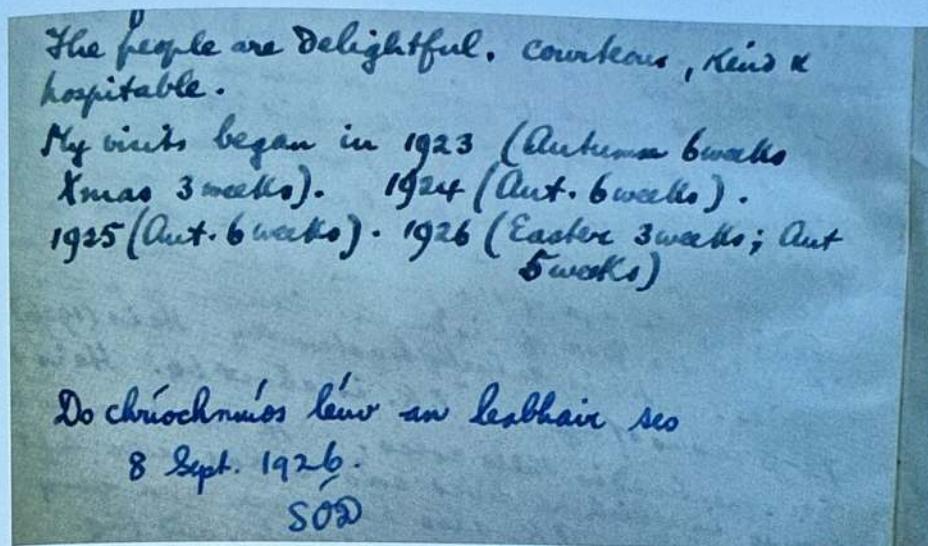
si mentem istam quasi animal aliquod voluit esse, erit aliquid interius, ex quo illud animal nominetur: quid autem interius mente? cingatur igitur corpore externo: quod quoniam non placet, aperta simplexque mens, nulla re adjuncta qua<sup>38</sup> sentire possit, fugere intellegentiae nostrae vim et notionem videtur. Crotoniates autem Alcmaeo, qui soli, et lunae, reliisque sideribus, animoque praeterea divinitatem dedit, non sensit sese mortalibus rebus immortalitatem dare. Nam Pythagoras, qui censuit animum esse per naturam rerum omnem intentum et commeantem ex quo

This Bible was sent to me in Galway gaol by a pious lady of that town, when I was imprisoned there in 1888. After my release I found it set for sale in a bookseller's shop window with the label on the back "Blunt's Bible", and bought it back for ten shillings. It had been confiscated by order of the prison inspectors, as being larger than the regulation size. W.S.B.

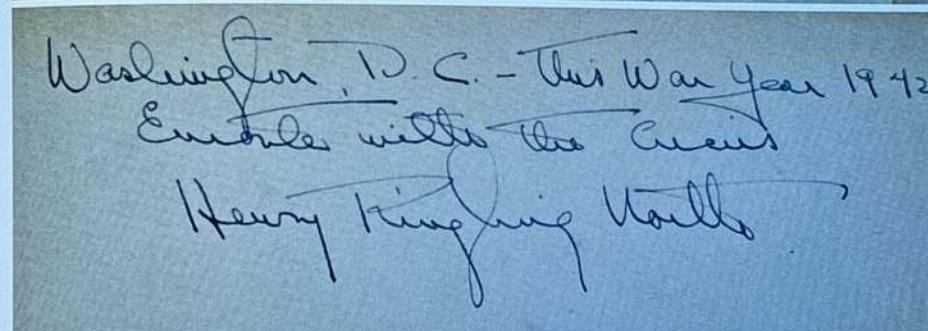




... and the interests of others can be tracked through their markings:



A note by the copious marker Séamus Ó Duilearga.



The travels of its collector can be tracked through markings in the **Ringling North Collection**.

# A Selection of Highlights from the Collections

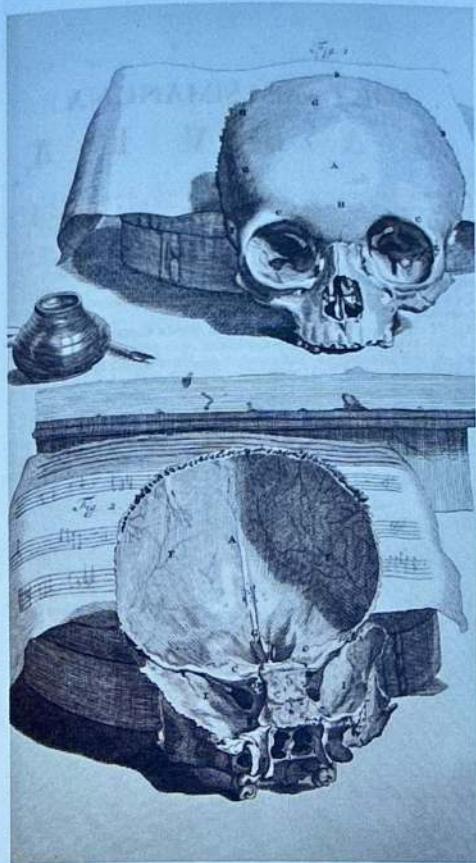


Scenery & antiquities of Ireland/J.  
Stirling Coyne, ill. by W.H.Bartlett.  
(London: 1832-51) Ringling North  
Collection

## Anatomy

From visually striking tomes to the textbooks utilised by the very first students on campus under the tutelage of professors Croker King, Cleland and Pye, anatomy is strongly represented in the Old Library Collection. The subject has been taught here since the very beginning, and the dissection table in Belmont House, the oldest lecture theatre on campus, is believed to be the original.

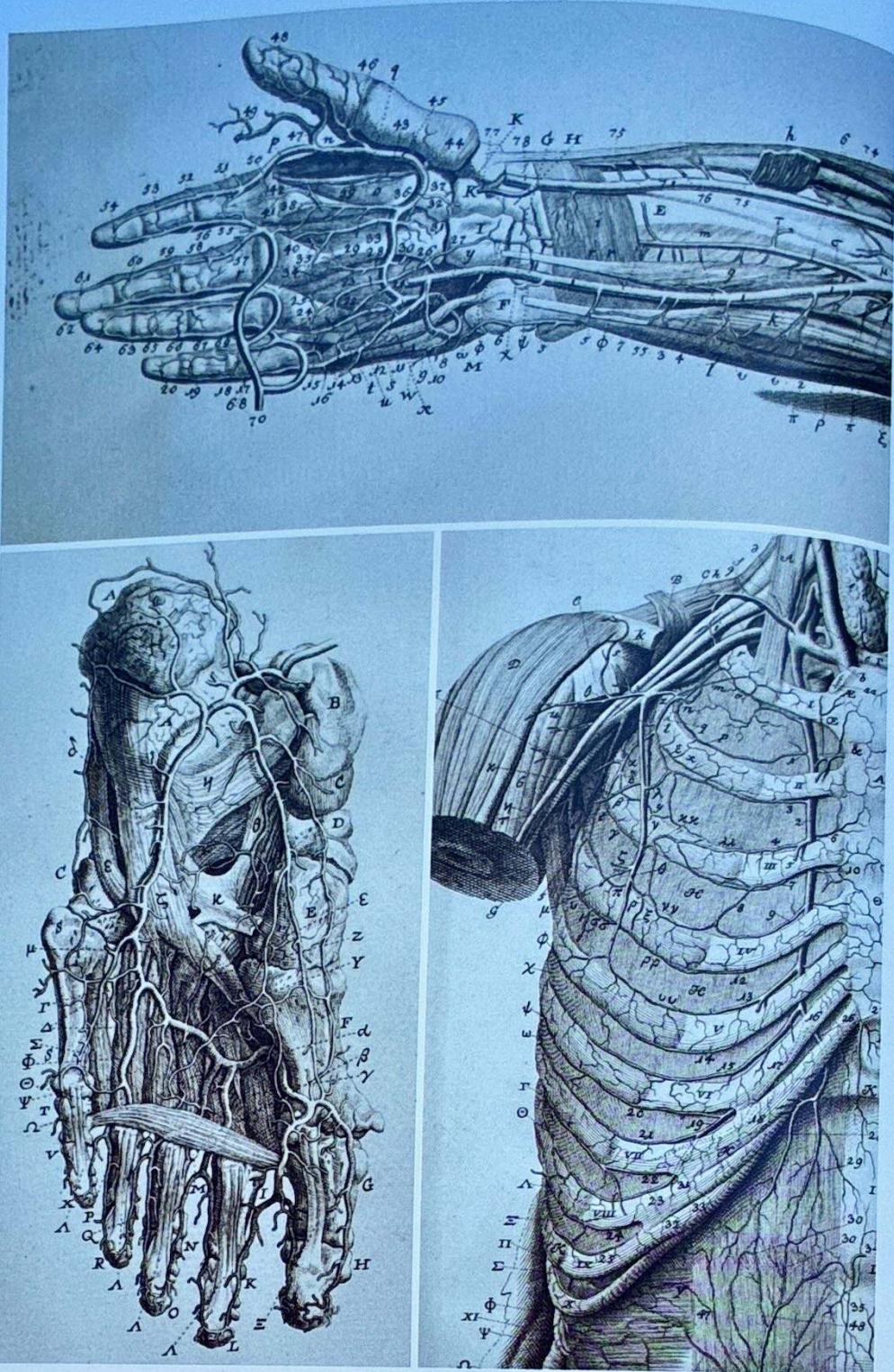
Beautifully illustrated by the Dutch painter Gerard de Lairesse (1640-1711), the realistic representations of the human form in *Anatomia hvmani corporis* brought the trademarks of still-life painting into anatomical illustration. In it we find the human figure represented in both living attitudes and as dissected cadavers.



*Anatomia hvmani corpori:  
centum & quinque tabulis /  
Govard Bidloo (1649-1713).  
(Amstelodami : Viduæ  
Joannis à Someren, 1685).  
Old Library Collection.*

Appointed as chair of medicine, anatomy, botany and surgery in the newly founded university at Göttingen in 1736, the Swiss botanist and anatomist Albrecht von Haller was the first to illustrate the arteries.

*Icones anatomicae:  
quibus praecipuae aliquae  
partes corporis humani  
delineatae proponuntur  
& arteriarum potissimum  
historia continetur /*  
Albrecht von Haller  
(1708-1777). (Gottingae:  
apud viduam B. Abrami  
Vandenhoeckii, 1756). Old  
Library Collection.



## Archaeology

Archaeology became a distinct discipline within the University in 1924. However, it is clear that it was considered a subject worthy of book acquisition long before then. Titles were usually shelved in sections relating to Architecture, History and Celtic Studies, depending on the volume's theme.



This title was shelved with books in the Celtic section of the library, as recorded by the Steinberger catalogue in 1913. Archaeological monuments were frequently referred to as "antiquities" in the 18th and 19th centuries. James Ware's *The Antiquities of Ireland* is also well known for its representation of people in the early historic period.

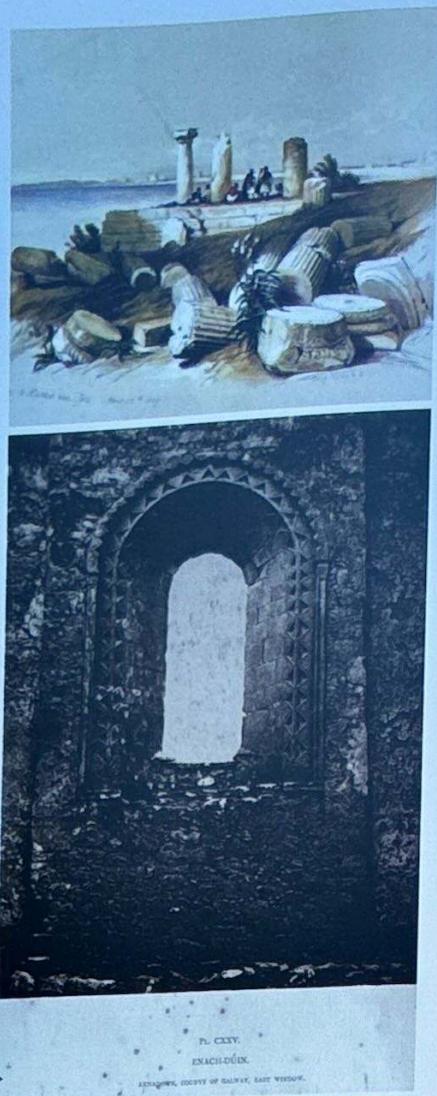
(Left) *The antiquities and history of Ireland / Sir James Ware (1594-1666). (London: Printed for A. and J. Churchill in Pater-Noster Row and J. Robinson at the Golden Lyon in St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1705).* Old Library Collection.

(Far left) *Christian inscriptions in the Irish language / chiefly collected and drawn by George Petrie and edited by M. Stokes. (Dublin: Royal Historical & Archaeological Association of Ireland, 1872-8).* Old Library Collection.

*The Holy Land, Syria, Idumea and Arabia/*  
David Roberts (1796-  
1864). (London: F.G. Moon,  
1842-45). Ringling North  
Collection

*Notes on Irish  
Architecture*/Edwin R.W.  
Wyndham-Quin, Earl of  
Dunraven (1812-1871).  
(London: G.Bell, 1875-77).  
Old Library Collection

*Pagan Ireland: an  
archaeological sketch*/W.G.  
Wood-Martin (1847-1917).  
(London: Longman, Green  
& Co. 1895). Old Library  
Collection



The archaeology of the classical world is also well represented in the Old Library Collection, although it tended to be arranged with volumes relating to Classics. More recent donations, such as the Ringling North Collection, feature works important for the study of classical archaeology, such as the monumental *The Holy Land, Syria, Idumea, Arabia, Egypt & Nubia* by the Scottish artist David Roberts (1796-1864).

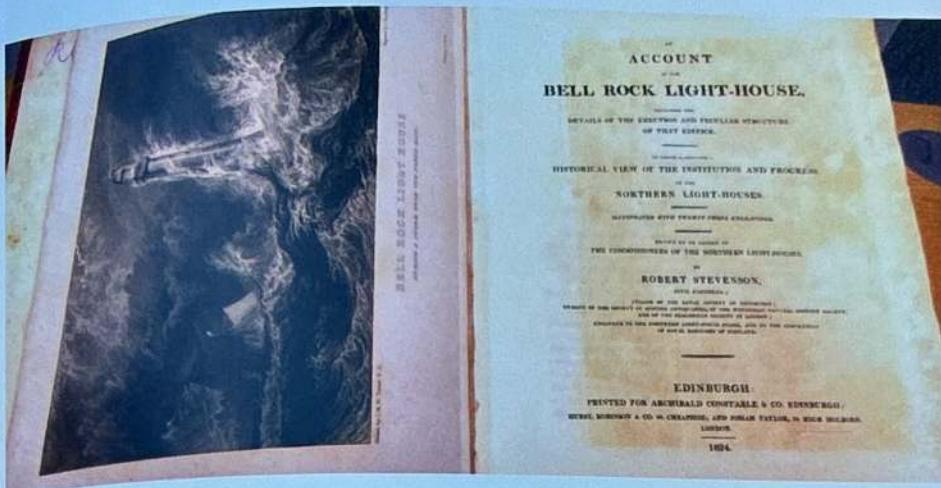
The importance of the medium of photography as a means of studying archaeological monuments was also clearly recognised by 19<sup>th</sup> century librarians. Some of the earliest works to use photographs rather than drawings of archaeological monuments include the Earl of Dunraven's *Notes on Irish Architecture* published in 1877. This is believed to be one of the first publications to show photographs of Irish archaeological monuments.

The publications of the Sligo antiquarian, W.G. Wood-Martin also represent some of the earliest photographic depictions of Irish archaeological monuments.

## Architecture and Engineering

In developing the printed collections to support the teaching of Engineering, the early librarians acquired many architectural items. Quite a number of these volumes would have presented a challenge for storage on conventional library shelves, as many included fold-outs and large scale illustrations.

Robert Stevenson's *An Account of the Bell Rock Lighthouse* is among the more unusual buildings featured. Not only was the tower design unique but the implements used in construction, such as moveable jib cranes, had to be invented.



As it was anticipated that many engineering graduates would go on to careers in the British colonies, there is an interesting collection of building manuals designed to recreate the architecture of the "English village" in more remote areas, such as those depicted in J.C. Loudon's *Cottage, farm and villa architecture*, originally published in 1846, and John Birch's *Country architecture*, published in 1874.

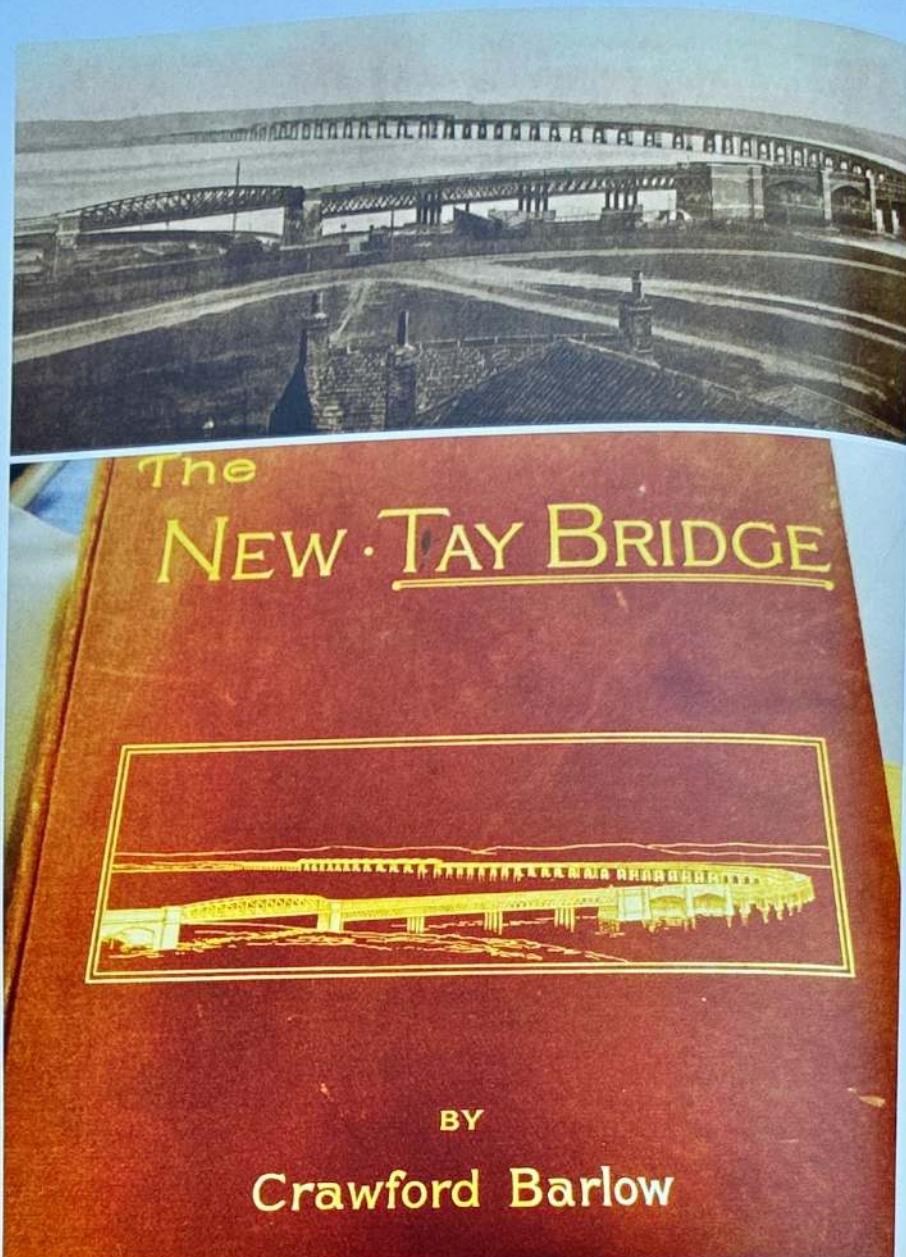


*An account of the Bell Rock Light-house: including the details of the erection and peculiar structure of that edifice: to which is prefixed a historical view of the institution and progress of the northern light-houses / Robert Stevenson (1772-1850). (Edinburgh: printed for Archibald Constable, 1824). Old Library Collection.*

*An encyclopædia of cottage, farm, and villa architecture and furniture: containing numerous designs for dwellings, from the villa to the cottage and the farm / J.C. Loudon (1783-1843). (London: Longman, Brown and Green, 1846). Old Library Collection.*

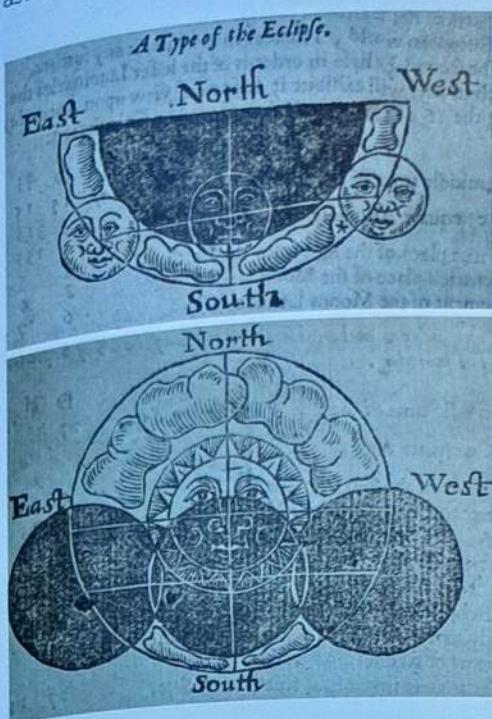
Our Special Collections also contain a wealth of books purchased to support more conventional Engineering subjects in the University from its inception. The early catalogues indicate a wide range of engineering themes including building construction, road making, surveying, railway construction and bridge building. Fine illustrated works on the latter include Crawford Barlow's illustrated work on the building of the new bridge over the river Tay in Scotland.

*The new Tay Bridge:  
a course of lectures  
delivered at the Royal  
School of Military  
Engineering at Chatham,  
November, 1888 / Crawford  
Barlow. (London: E. & F.N.  
Spon, 1889). Old Library  
Collection.*



## Astronomy

An interest in scientific development is shown in the acquisition of the *Mappa Selenographica*. Measuring c. 1m in diameter, this detailed hand-drawn map of the surface of the moon by the German astronomers Beer and Mädler, the fruit of four years' work, is generally accepted to be the first exact map of the moon. The terminology here used by its creators determined moon nomenclature for future astronomers.



An ephemerides of the coelestial motions for XIII years documents the position occupied by each body in the solar system on each day of the years 1659-1671, detailing their longitude, latitude, and declination. John Flamsteed (1646-1719), the first astronomer royal and founder of Greenwich Observatory, considered Wing's ephemerides to be the most accurate of the time. Despite having little formal education, Wing (1619-1668) earned his living as a surveyor, astrologer, writer of astronomical works, and compiler of almanacs.

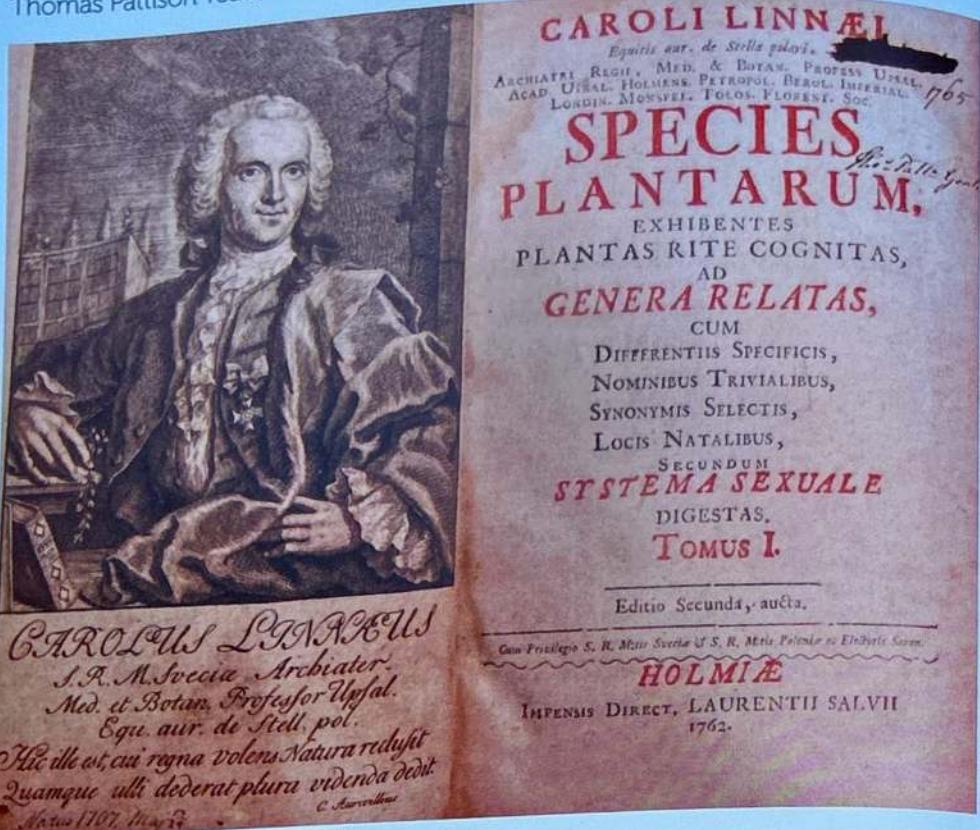
(Left) *Mappa selenographica* / Wilhelm Beer (1797-1850) and Johann Heinrich Mädler (1794-1874). (Berolini: Ex autographo in lapidem incidit Carolus Vogel apud Simon Schropp & Soc., 1834). Old Library Collection.

(Far left) *An ephemerides of the coelestial motions for XIII years* / Vincent Wing. (London : R. & W. Leybourn, for the Company of Stationers, 1657). King's Inns Collection.

## Botany

Originally published in 1753, this seminal work listed for the first time botanical nomenclature for all known species and classified them into genera. It was the earliest work to consistently apply binomial names and was the starting point for the modern naming of plants. Our copy bears several former ownership marks, including that of Thomas Pattison Yeats, translator into English of Linnaeus' *Entomologia* in 1773.

*Species plantarum* / Carl von Linné (1707-1778). (Holmiae : Impensis direct. Laurentii Salvii, 1762-3). Old Library Collection.



Concise notices of British grasses, best suited for agriculture / David Moore (1808-1879). (Dublin: James McGlashan, 1850). Old Library Collection.



Agriculture was studied on campus from 1849 until the mid 20th century, and this work detailing species for the composition of good pasture makes for interesting reading in this age of rye grass monoculture. Appointed director of the Botanic Gardens at Glasnevin in 1838, the publication is just part of Moore's body of research on the native grasses of the British Isles. This edition, along with the later third edition, includes 60 dried specimens, the condition of which, some 170 years later, is quite remarkable.

## Classics

The teaching of classics has had a long tradition on this campus, with the professors of Greek (William E. Hearn, 1826-1888) and Latin (William Nesbitt, 1824-1881) both taking up their posts in 1849 in time for the university's first students. Special Collections reflects this long tradition, and is home to some very fine 17<sup>th</sup> century editions of the works of Cicero produced during the Dutch Golden Age.

The very successful translation of the works of Virgil by John Dryden (1631-1700) was first published in 1697 by subscription. Each poem was accompanied by a dedicated full-page illustration engraved with the subscriber's name and coat of arms. At five guineas per subscriber, this approach generated the bulk of Dryden's income from the project. Our 1701 edition appeared a year after his death and was the result of a long-running collaboration with the prolific printer Jacob Tonson (1656?-1736).

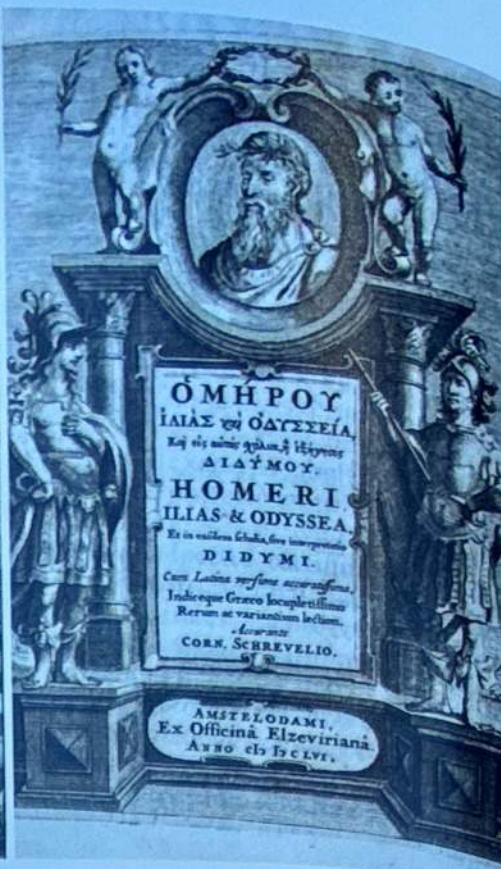
Dryden's translation of *Aeneid* is considered by many to be the best ever produced in English language.



*The works of the late famous Mr. John Dryden in four volumes. (London: Jacob Tonson, 1701). Old Library Collection.*

(Right) *De prodigiis liber*  
*/ Julius Obsequens.*  
*(Amstelaedami : apud*  
*Henricum & Theodorum*  
*Boom, 1679).* King's Inns  
Collection.

(Far right) *Omerou Ilias kai*  
*Odysseia.* (Amstelodami:  
Ex Officina Elzeviriana.  
1656). Old Library  
Collection.



Contemporary to the prophecies of Nostradamus, from the same decade in fact, this compilation of the forebodings, predictions and portents of Julius Obsequens by way of Livy was arranged in chronological order by the scholar Konrad Lykosthenes (1518-1561). The item's engraved title-page shows the censored version of Hermaphrodite, featured here with a modestly positioned bough.

This parallel Greek-Latin edition of Homer's Odyssey is the work of one of the most notable printing houses of the Dutch Golden Age: the Elzevir family. This typographical powerhouse operated in Amsterdam and Leiden from 1583-1712, and produced some of the most desirable printings of the hand-press era. It is edited by the Dutch physician and lexicographer Cornelis Schrevel (1608-1664).

## Folklore

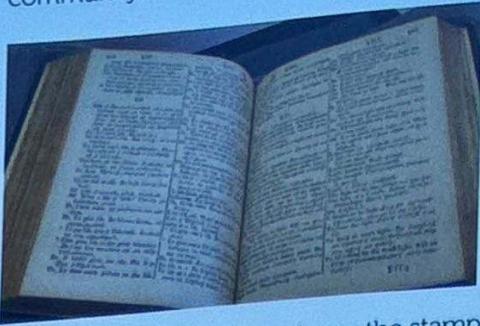
Whilst not a subject specifically associated with this campus, the scope of folkloristic scholarship received a boon in 1981 when Special Collections acquired the sizeable Delargy Collection, the personal library of Professor Séamus Ó Duilearga (1899-1980). A native of Cushendall, Co. Antrim, this student of Celtic Studies (UCD) went on to found the Folklore of Ireland Society (1926), edited *Béaloideas*, founded the Irish Folklore Institute (1930), was honorary director of the Irish Folklore Commission, and Professor of Folklore at UCD (1946-1971). This lifetime of collecting and studying folk heritage is reflected in the collection's breadth of writing on all aspects of both Irish and European folklore from much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It contains a significant quantity of items received by Professor Ó Duilearga from fellow folklorists around the globe, many of which have been personally inscribed to him.



*Fairy legends and traditions of the south of Ireland* / Thomas Croker (1798-1854). (London : John Murray, 1828). Delargy Collection.

## Gaeilge

Published in Paris in 1732 by Jacques Guérin (1699?-1752), this was the first English-Irish dictionary ever printed and it is effusive in its presentation of this 'so little known' language: 'Of all the dead or living languages none is more copious and elegant in expression, nor is any more harmonious and musical in the pronunciation than the Irish'. Its printer went on to produce Andrew Donlevy's bilingual *The catechism, or Christian doctrine, by way of question and answer* (1742) for the Irish community in Paris a decade later.

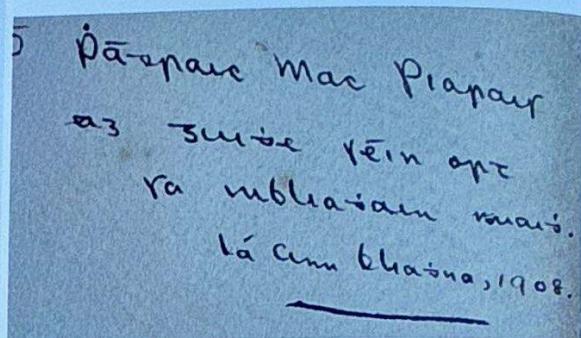


LIF.  
Life. f. An cojméanáil atá roinnt an tanaam agas an corp, nó an reap buanáigear an cojméanáil roinnt, nó an modha beata, nó crátrír nó tuaprygáil an gínjóimh ap read a beata.  
Ex. To have life. Do leict beo.  
To loose one's life. Dul d'éas, nó báir

Our leatherbound copy bears the stamp of the British Museum and the bookplate of Dr. Edward Lynam, Superintendent of the British Museum Map Room from 1931-1950. His obituary described him as a man of many and varied interests, and indeed he is credited with articles on diverse subjects from the development of Irish type to the archaeology of 'O'Flaherty Country'.



*Iosagán* was the first collection of short stories to be produced by Padraic Pearse (1879-1916). This copy bears his New Year's wishes for 1908 in an inscription to his good friend Stiofán Bairéad (1867-1921), honorary treasurer to the Gaelic League and part-collator of our Bairéad Collection.



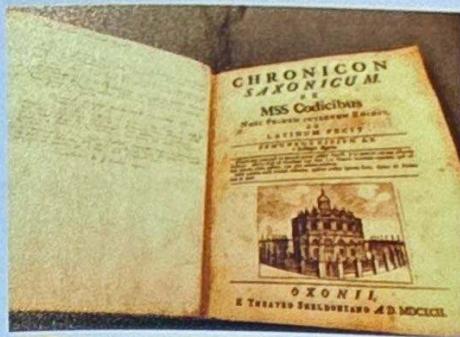
## History, English and Philosophy

Though the disciplines of English, History and Philosophy were not separated into distinct teaching areas until 1914, all three are well represented in the Library's older and rare book collections. The catalogue prepared by Professor D'Arcy Thompson in 1877 shows how the books for these subject areas were arranged in the library at the time: Department VI contained English Language and Literature (divided into twelve sections), Department IX: Ancient History, and Department X: Modern History. Philosophy was covered in Department XII: Mental Science including Logic and Metaphysics. Amongst the earliest titles featured in that catalogue is Edmund Gibson's *Chronicon Saxonicum* (pictured).

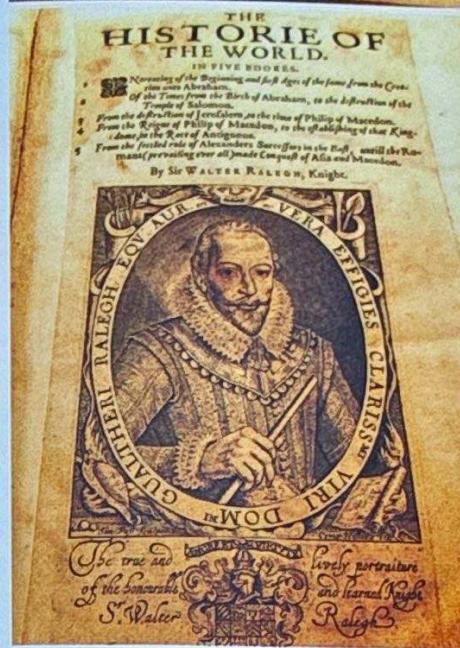
One of the many volumes on Ancient History is Walter Raleigh's *History of the World* (pictured), published in 1614.

There are, of course, many volumes on Irish historical topics. These include, not surprisingly, a first edition of Roderic O'Flaherty's *Ogygia*, published in 1685. O'Flaherty (1629-1718) was born near Moycullen, Co. Galway.

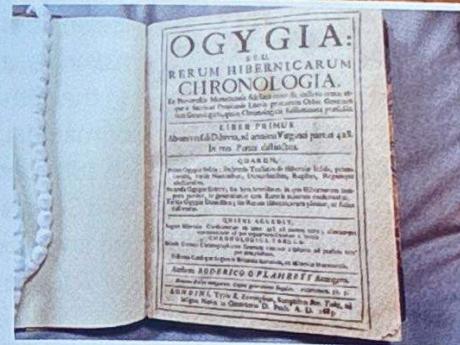
The book is a chronicle of Irish history up to the author's own time, and records what he perceived was a world passing away. He was encouraged to write it by another Galway scholar, John Lynch (c.1599-c.1673), the author of *Cambrensis Eversus* (1662). The library's copy of the latter is extensively annotated and was clearly a prized possession.



*Chronicon Saxonicum/*  
Edmund Gibson. (Oxford:  
Sheldon, 1692).



*The History of the World*  
in five bookes/Walter  
Raleigh (1552?-1618).  
(London: Walter Burre,  
1614).



*Ogygia:rerum  
hibernicarum chronologia/*  
Roderick O'Flaherty.  
(London: 1685). Old  
Library Collection.

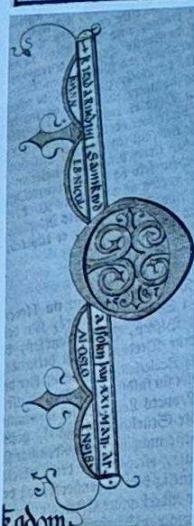
## Languages

Three full-page woodcuts mark the beginning of each of the three books in this early edition of the *Divina commedia*, printed some 70 years after the original. Smaller woodcuts are dispersed throughout, and whilst all are unsigned, it has been suggested that they are the work of the item's printer Francesco Marcolini (approx. 1500-approx. 1559). A contemporary and friend of Titian (approx. 1488-1576), Marcolini was himself an accomplished artist and his work presents updated representations of the geography of Dante's journey through Inferno, Purgatorio, and Paradiso. Dense commentary by Alessandro Vellutello (1473-1550) surrounds Dante's text. It is dedicated to Pope Paul III (1468-1549), an enthusiastic patron of the arts and commissioner of the Sistine Chapel oeuvre by Michelangelo (1475-1564), and contains the first known biography of its author. This edition was first issued without the lines Purgatorio II, 64-66 (leaf V7 recto), which are hand-stamped in the lower margin of our copy.



*La comedia di Dante Aligieri.* (Impressa in Vinegia : Per Francesco Marcolini ad instantia di Alessandro Vellutello, 1544). Old Library Collection.

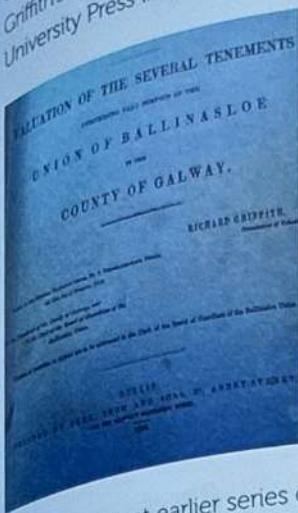
*Heimskringla edr Noregs konunga-sögor / Snorri Sturluson.* (Havniæ : Typis Augusti Friderici Steinii, 1777). Delargy Collection.



It has been estimated that one in every ten Icelanders will become published in their lifetime. They certainly have a tradition of storytelling: the word 'saga' originates from the Old Norse word for 'story'. One of the most recognisable names in epic Icelandic literature is Snorri Sturluson (1179?-1241) and his *Heimskringla*, a lengthy saga of the Old Norse kings, was written in the 13th century. The Delargy Collection holds a wealth of material in the Scandinavian tradition, including this lavish 18th century Copenhagen edition of *Heimskringla* by Gerhard Schøning (1722-1780), a self-taught student of Old Norse and one of the founders of the Royal Norwegian Society of Science and Letters.

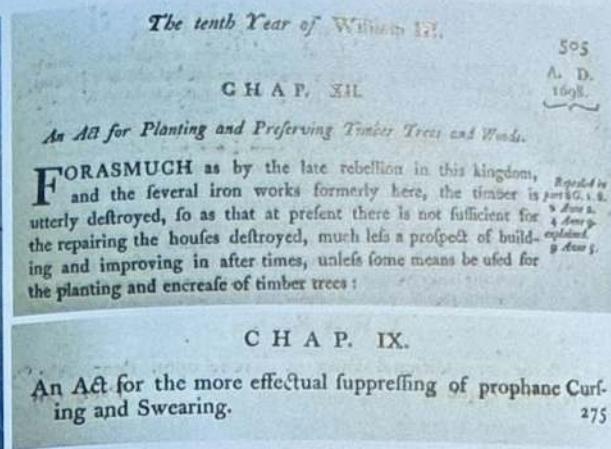
## Law and Business

Documents and publications produced by the state over the centuries have been important to researchers. The 19<sup>th</sup> century in particular saw a massive increase in the output of state or 'official publications', many of which are now available online. Extensive manuscript sources. These provide detailed data on topics such as population, housing, health, the penal system, industrial and commercial enterprises and, especially in the case of Ireland, landholding. The Library has a large array of these publications in printed format, such as the extensive collection of original Griffith's Valuation volumes, and the substantial reprint series produced by the Irish University Press in the 1960s.



An important earlier series of official publications are the Statutes, passed in the Irish Parliament during the 18th century, as well as the Journals of the House of Commons of the Kingdom of Ireland. The latter are an account of speeches in the House before it was abolished by the Act of Union in 1801. The volumes in our collection were originally part of the library of Moyvalley House, Co. Kildare, and were presented to the Library by the Bewley family in 1970.

The library of John Elliott Cairnes (1823-1875), professor of jurisprudence and political economy at Queen's College, Galway (1859-1870), largely contains works on 19th century economy and society. The Co. Louth native was considered to be one of the leading economists of his time, and his library bears out his transition from top student (pictured) to accomplished author and thinker.



Ch. IX.  
An Act for the more effectual suppressing of profane Curse-  
ing and Swearing. 275



(Left) The statutes at large passed in the parliaments held in Ireland. (Dublin: George Grierson, 1786-)

(Far left) Union of Ballinasloe: Valuation of the several tenements comprised in the above-named union situate in the county of Galway/ compiled by Richard Griffith. (Dublin: A. Thom, 1856)

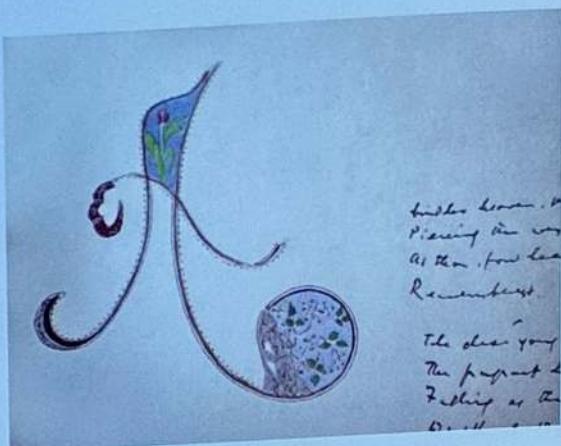
## Literature in English

A professorship of English literature was not established in the University until 1914, but Special Collections tracks the early acquisition of material relating to English literature, including some attractively bound sets of the collected works of celebrated 19th century authors such as Dickens and Thackeray. Amongst earlier literary works is this fine edition of John Milton's *Paradise regain'd*, printed by John Baskerville (1706-1775) in 1759 using the typeface he invented just two years before.

Invia fatorum dum per vestigia nitor,  
Exequor et populi fortia jussa manu.  
Ait tibi submittit frontem reverentior umbra;  
Nec sunt hi vultus Regibus usque truces.

\* These verses were sent to Christina Queen of Sweden

20th century Irish literature in English is well represented in Special Collections. It includes the fine Obelisk Press edition of James Joyce's *Pomes Penyeach*, gifted to the Library by the author on its publication in 1932. Ours is one of a limited run of 25 numbered copies, each hand-illustrated by the author's daughter Lucia (1907-1982).



*Paradise regain'd : a poem, in four books : to which is added Samson Agonistes, and poems upon several occasions / John Milton (1608-1674). (Birmingham : Printed by John Baskerville, for J. and R. Tonson in London, 1759). Old Library Collection.*

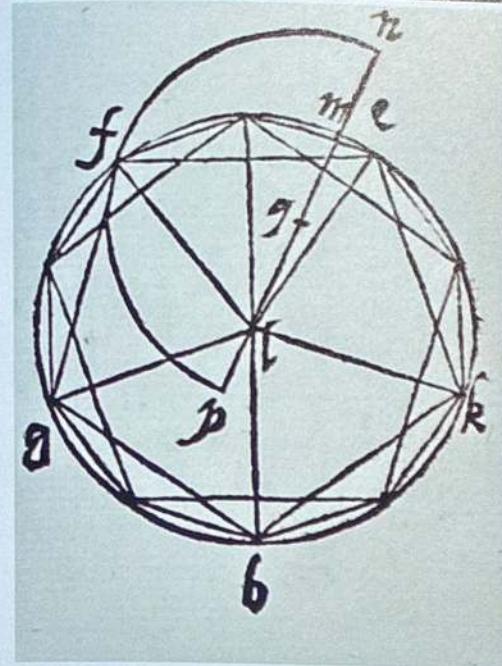
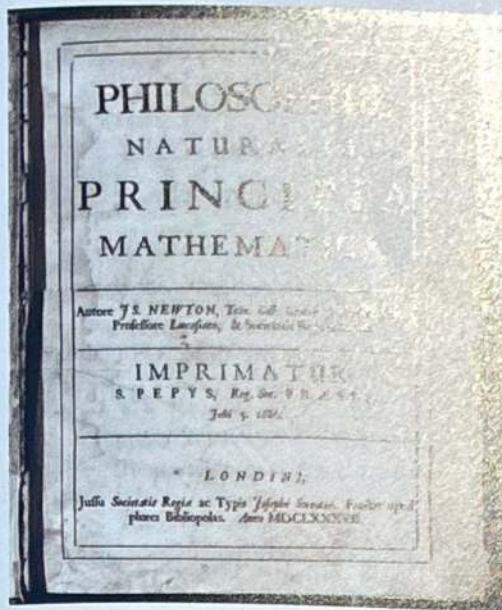
*Pomes Penyeach/James Joyce (1882-1941). (Paris: Obelisk Press, 1932). Old Library Collection.*

## Mathematics

One of the founding subjects of this university, the well-known *Mathematics*, is present on the Old Library Collection shelves are testament to the exacting standards of the subject's first professors.

The first edition of Newton's *Principia* was produced in a limited run of c. 300 copies<sup>1</sup> with the editorial and financial aid of Newton's Royal Society colleague, the astronomer Edmond Halley (1656-1742). Our copy is ornately bound in gold-tooled vellum, a binding style which features on a number of other mathematical tomes from the Old Library Collection, all unsigned.

It was a very productive spring of 1543 for the self-educated mathematician from Brescia, Niccolò Tartaglia (-1557). In February, he produced the first Italian translation, indeed the first translation into any modern language, of Euclid's *Elements*, a 13 volume collation of contemporary geometrical knowledge. In April he produced *Opera Archimedis Syracusani philosophi et mathematici ingeniosissimi*, a revival of the works of Archimedes (287-212 BC). Whilst a body of knowledge exists on the latter, little is known about the author of *Elements*, though it is widely accepted that he predated Archimedes. Both volumes form part of the impressive mathematics branch of the Old Library Collection.



Philosophia naturalis  
Principia mathematica /  
Isaac Newton. (London:  
J. Streater, 1687). Old  
Library Collection.

Euclide Megarense  
philosopho. (Venice:  
Stampato in Vinegia per  
Venturino Roffinelli ad  
instantia e requisitione de  
Guilielmo de Monferra,  
& de Pietro di Facolo da  
Vinegia libraro, & de Nicolo  
Tartalea, 1543). Old Library  
Collection.

<sup>1</sup> Munby, 'The two titlepages of the distribution of the first edition of Newton's Principia,' Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London (10 October 1952).

## Medicine

Medicine, like many other subjects, is well represented in the Old Library's collections in particular. This treatise is an alphabetical index to the medicinal values of Ireland's 18<sup>th</sup> century fauna, and was published during a time when training in botany was tied to medical curricula. Some entries might be quite surprising, such as the qualities outlined for the much maligned *Pica pica*...

*Zoologia medicinalis Hibernica* / John K'Eogh (1681?-1754). (Dublin : Printed by S. Powell, for the author, and to be had at James Kelburn's, 1739). Old Library Collection.

M

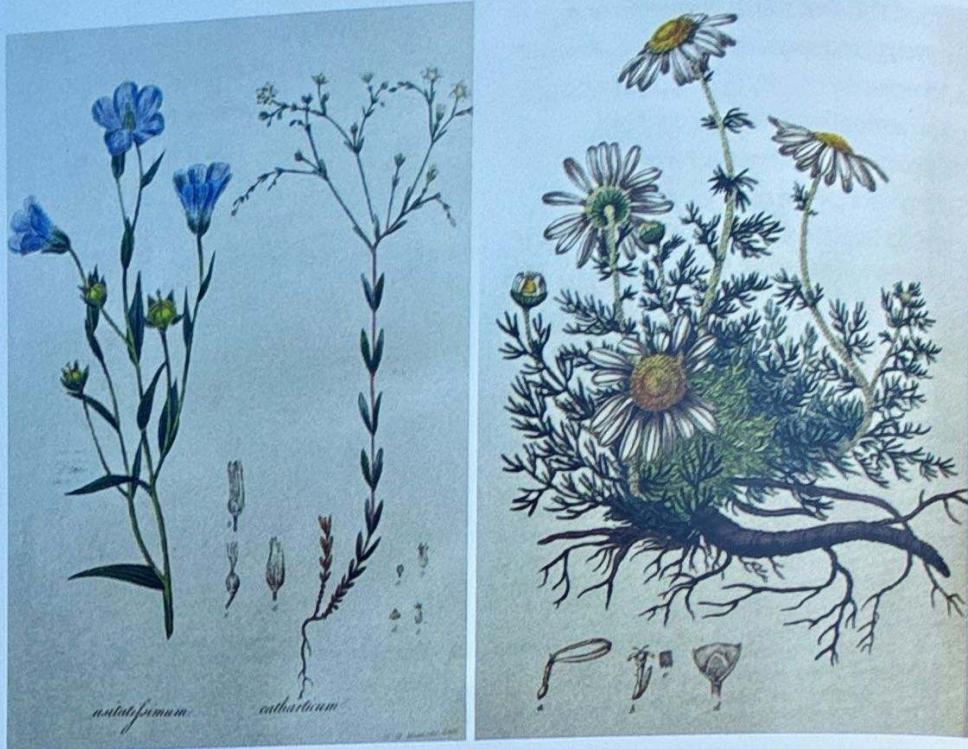
**M**AGPIE, or Pianet, Hib. *Maggidifze*, Lat. *Pica*, Citta. The flesh powdered or calcined is useful against the epilepsy, melancholy, vertigo, megrim, and dimness of sight: The flesh of the whole bird beaten in a mortar to a poultis, eases the gout, and strengthens weak joints being applied: There is an antipellitic water made of young magpies which is a notable cephalic, and neurotic medicine. A

... and the botherosome tick:

**TICK**, Hib. *Skirtane*, Lat. *Ricinus*. The blood of ticks, which are found adhering to dogs, is depilatory preventing the hair to grow; it also cureth St. Anthony's fire, and tetter, the parts being rubbed therewith.

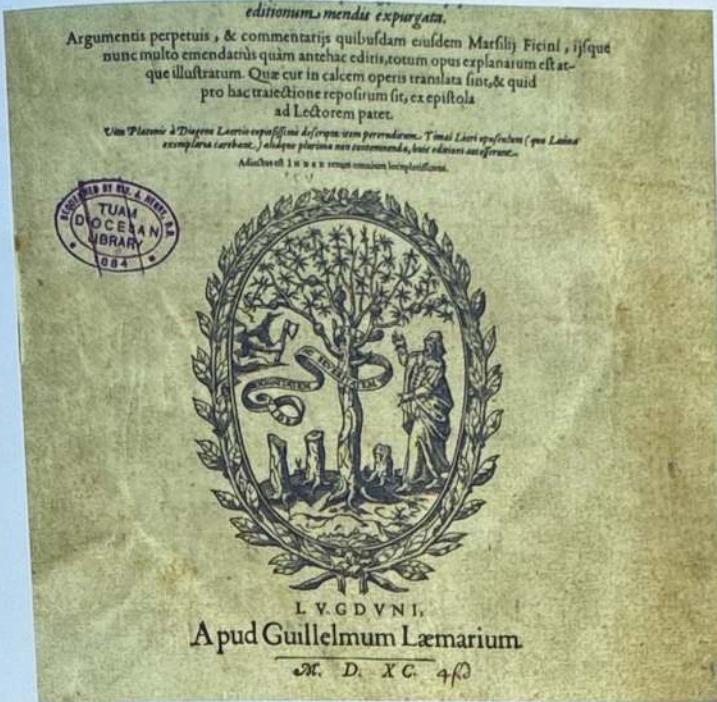
This beautifully illustrated *materia medica* received high commendation from *The medico-chirurgical review* (1827) and was recommended for inclusion in the young physician's library by *The Boston medical and surgical journal* (1834). Its new edition was edited by Gilbert Burnett (1800-1835), professor of botany at King's College.

*Medical botany; or, Illustrations and descriptions of the medicinal plants of the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin pharmacopoeias* / John Stephenson (1790-1864). (London, Churchill, 1834-6). Old Library Collection.



## Philosophy

Our Philosophy holdings were much augmented by the acquisition in the early 1990s of the Library of St. Anthony's Franciscan college and later by the Henry Library. The extant works of Plato were first translated into Latin in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by Marsilio Ficino (1433-1499), an Italian scholar patronised by Cosimo de Medici (1389-1464). Ficino, founder of a Platonic Academy in Florence, was one of the philosophers of Renaissance Italy.



*Divini Platonis Opera  
omnia quae extant.*  
(Lvgdvn: apvd F. le Preux,  
1590). Henry Library.



## Religion

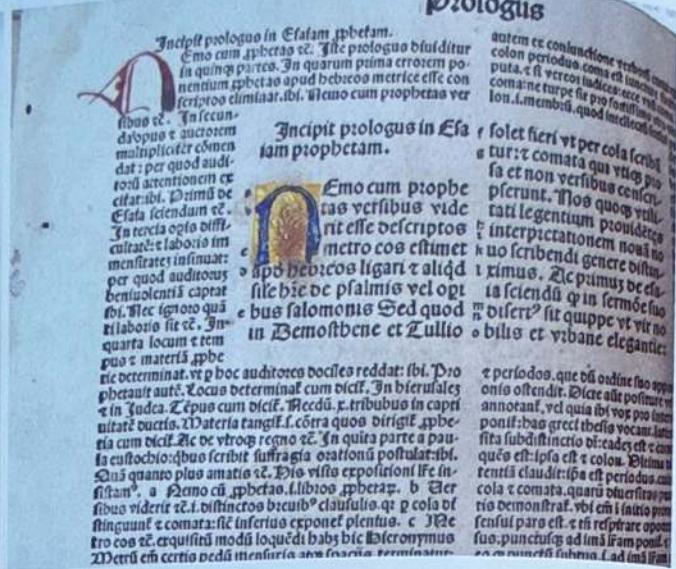
Whilst theology has never been an academic discipline of this university, Special Collections holds two large and comprehensive religious collections: the Henry Achonry, and the St. Anthony's Special Collections, which formed part of the library of St. Anthony's Franciscan College acquired by UCG in 1992.

One of the rare incunabula in Special Collections, this Bible commentary by Nicholas of Lyra (approx. 1270-1349) is here produced by the Nuremberg Chronicle printer Anton Koberger (approx. 1440-1513). Its volumes are peppered with vignettes and illustrations attributed to Lyra himself, and beautiful hand-painted lead initials accented in gold leaf. The biblical text at the centre of each page is surrounded by commentary by Lyra in smaller text.

*Biblia Latina cum postillis.*  
(Exactū est Nuremberge  
insigne hoc ac inusitatū  
opus Biblie illustrate:  
impésisque Anthonii  
Kobergers prefate civitatis  
incole, 1497). St. Anthony's  
Special Collections.



*Confessiones / Augustine,  
Saint, Bishop of Hippo.*  
(Strasburg: Johannes  
Mentelin, 1470). King's Inns  
Collection.



Another incunabulum in Special Collections, this printing lacks both a recognisable title-page and, unusually for its time, a colophon or explicit, but authorities have nonetheless consistently ascribed the work to the Strasburg printer Johann Mentelin (approx. 1410-1478) based on the typeface employed. Two variants of this autobiography exist, one with 26 lines per page and one with 32 lines per page. Our copy is of the latter format.

## Travel Literature

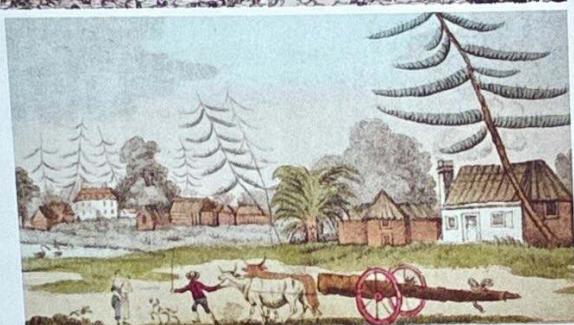
Travel literature is possibly unique as a subject in Special Collections in its representation in all variants and periods across most of our individual collections.

A perennial favourite which has gone through many editions, this second edition of Darwin's research journal was commissioned and produced by the firm of John Murray as part of their Colonial and home library series, and it incorporated extensive revisions made by the author following analysis of field data gathered a decade earlier. The second edition was originally issued in monthly parts, though this format is now quite rare. The second issue in book form came in two variants: this genuine second issue, as evidenced by the inclusion of dated advertisements at the rear and the gilt spine of its publisher's red cloth binding, and a second variant which was dated 1845 but was actually issued in 1848<sup>2</sup>.



Born in Co. Kildare, the notorious pickpocket George Barrington (1755-1804) was described by the London Chronicle as "the gentlest thief ever remembered at the Old Bailey". Following his conviction in 1790, he was transported to Botany Bay. His

authorship of this gaily illustrated account of the colony has, however, been disputed and it was likely that Barrington's popularity prompted publishers to append his name to the publication in order to boost sales back in Britain.



*Journal of researches into the natural history and geology of the countries visited during the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle round the world, under command of Captain Fitz Roy, R.N. / Charles Darwin (1809-1882). (London: John Murray, 1845). Old Library Collection.*

*An account of a voyage to New South Wales / George Barrington. (London: M. Jones and Sherwood, Neely & Jones, 1810). King's Inns Collection.*

<sup>2</sup> John van Wyhe, ed. 2002-. The Complete Work of Charles Darwin Online (<http://darwin-online.org.uk/>) accessed 15 Jan 2016.

## Zoology

In this age of mass extinction and climate change, tomes in Special Collections can track the changes in our natural heritage, such as the now rare marsh fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*) and purple hairstreak (*Quercusia quercus*) butterflies, both seen 'in plenty near Ardrahan, in the county of Galway' when this work was first published in 1864.

*A history of British butterflies* / F.O. Morris  
(1810-1893). (London:  
Groombridge, 1864). Old  
Library Collection.



The visually stunning work by the German artist, naturalist and adventurer Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717) broke ground in its time. The accuracy and realism of the author's depictions of insects were fuelled by lifelong observation, and served to revolutionise entomological thinking which, before then, believed that insects were spontaneously created by the earth. The illustrations depict the different life stages of moth and butterfly species from chrysalis to adult, along with their associated food plants, albeit with some artistic licence. This edition is here translated into Latin, the lingua franca of the sciences, by the author's daughter, Dorothea M.H. Merian (1678-1745).



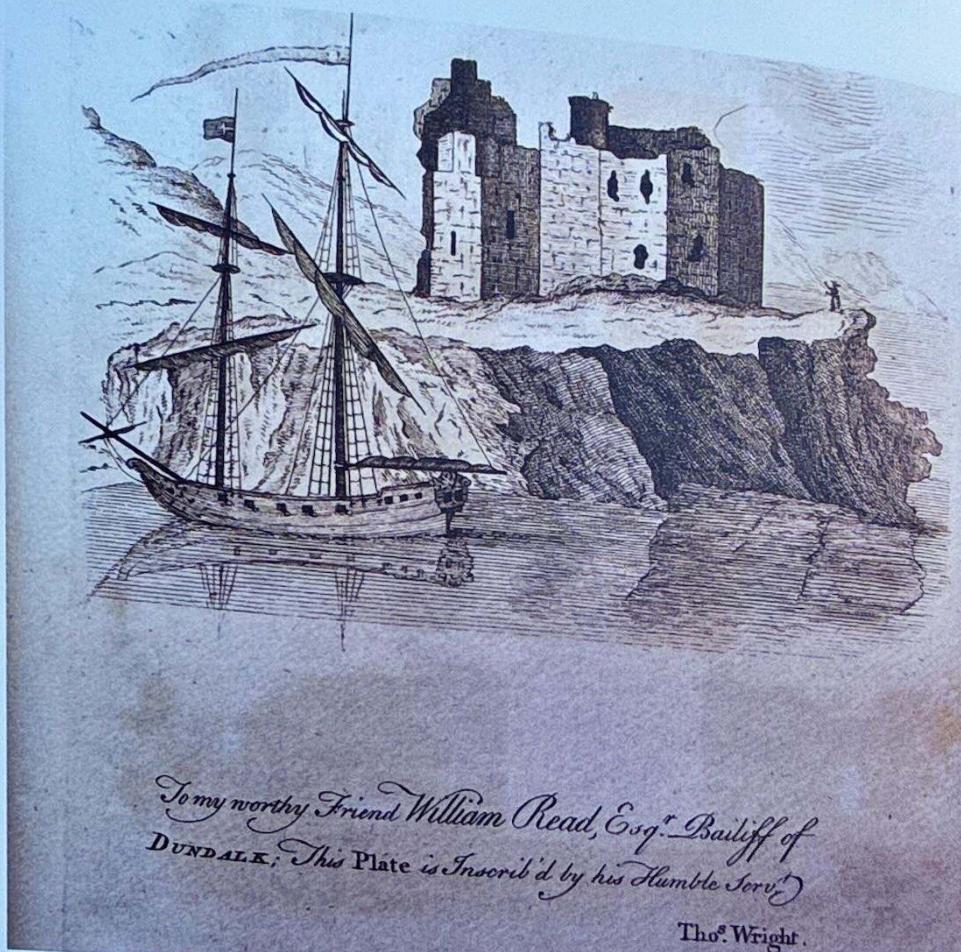
*Erucarum ortus / M.S.*  
Merian. (Amstelaedami:  
Joannem Oosterwyk, 1717).  
**Special Collections.**

*A history of the earth, and  
animated nature / Oliver  
Goldsmith (1728-1774).  
(Dublin: Printed for James  
Williams, 1776). **Special  
Collections.***

## Local Connections

As befits a University which takes its community remit very seriously, the library has for many years collected material relating to the West of Ireland and the local Galway area. This is reflected in some of the donated collections, as well as in our modern Local Studies Collection held in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. As a copyright library, we are fortunate in receiving copies of many of the local area studies which have been published as a result of the upsurge in family and local history interest over the past quarter century. This phenomenon is not new, however, as such studies were also being produced in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and include James Hardiman's *History of Galway*, published in 1820 by the man who, as the University's first librarian, was afterwards to begin the task of collecting the material in our care today. Hardiman was following in the tradition of scholars such as Charles Smith (1715?-1762), whose *Ancient & Present State of the county and city of Waterford* appeared in 1746, and Thomas Wright (1711-1786), whose *Louthiana*, a study of county Louth, was published in 1748.

*Louthiana or, An introduction to the antiquities of Ireland: in upwards of ninety views and plans representing, with proper explanations, the principal ruins, curiosities, and antient dwellings, in the county of Louth / Thomas Wright. (London: printed for the author by W. Faden, 1748).*  
Special Collections.

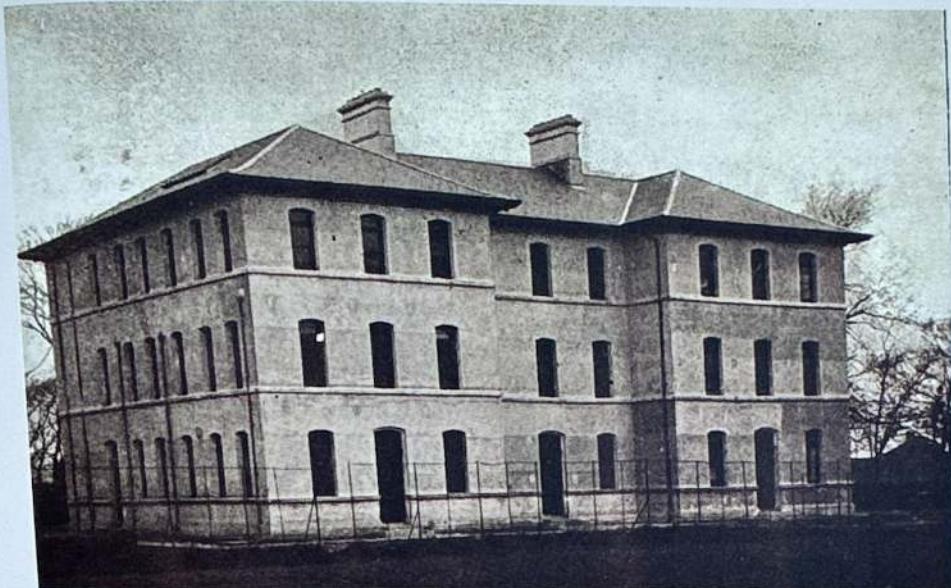


*To my worthy Friend William Read, Esq.<sup>r</sup> Bailiff of  
DUNDALK; This Plate is Inscrib'd by his Humble Servt*

*Tho<sup>s</sup>. Wright.*

Local Studies are well represented in the Killanin Library, a collection assembled by Michael Morris, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Killanin (1914-1999) and presented to the Library by his family in 1999. As joint editor of the first edition of the *Shell guide to Ireland* (1962), his library contains many significant Irish local studies from the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A more recent donation, the library of Micheál Ó Curraoín, adds to this by its inclusion of many local studies items published right up to the early years of this century.

Materials with local connections also include the printed output of the University as an institution. This collection, consisting of college calendars, presidents' reports, volumes of examination papers, handbooks and student publications, provides context for the research work of many university colleagues. In addition, this collection is invaluable for the provision of background information to the physical site on which the University now stands and its development over time. *The College Handbook* for example, published in 1915, not only provides us with a glimpse into the lost world of the Quadrangle library, but also affords us a view of the then new Civil Engineering building as it neared completion.



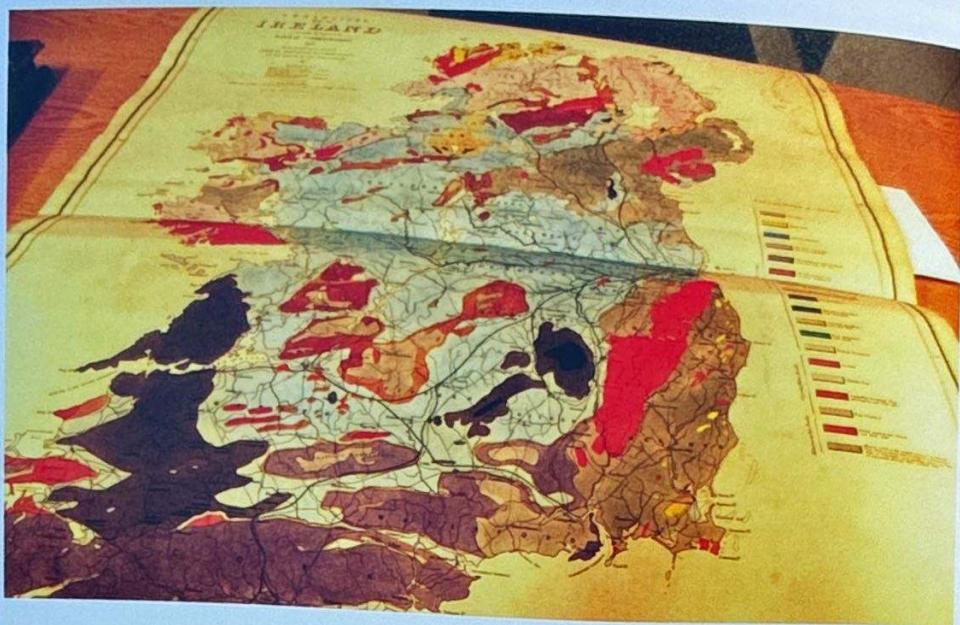
**College handbook.**  
(Galway: University College Galway, 1915). Archives and Special Collections Reading Room Collection.

## Maps

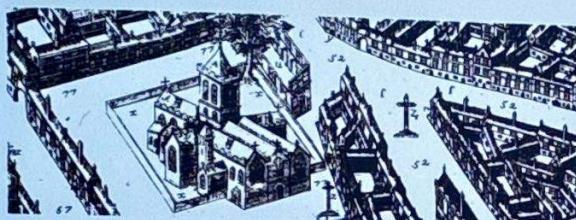
The library holds an extensive collection of Ordnance Survey maps of Ireland, including a set of bound volumes of the first editions for all Irish counties, published 1838-1842.

There are also specialist maps, published to accompany specific reports, e.g.: the *Atlas to accompany the report of the Railway Commissioners, Ireland*, which appeared as early as 1836.

*Maps of lines drawn under the direction of the commissioners/Irish Railway Commission. (Dublin: 1838). Old Library Collection.*



Earlier historic maps, such as the 18<sup>th</sup> century Moll maps of Connacht, Co. Galway and Clare-Limerick, are also represented in our archival collections. Perhaps one of our most unique maps is the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century representation of Galway City, varyingly suggested as drawn for the Duc de Lorraine or Charles II and popularly known as the Pictorial Map. A facsimile of this work, commissioned by the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society in 1900, hangs on the wall in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. The original has been digitised and is available to view on the Library website at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/digitisedarchives/>



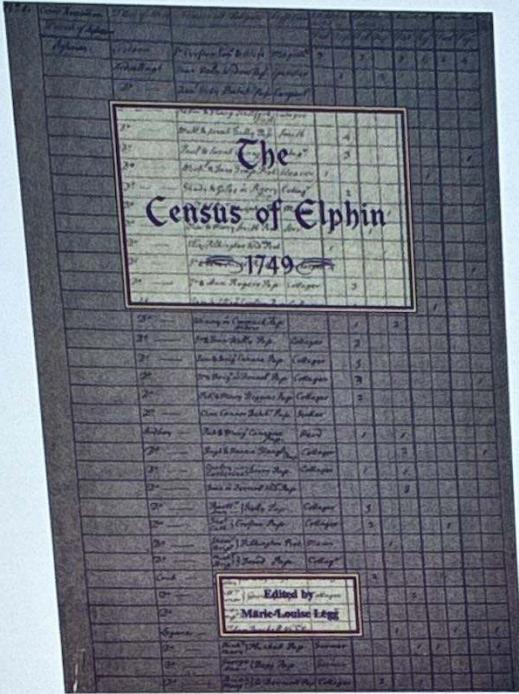
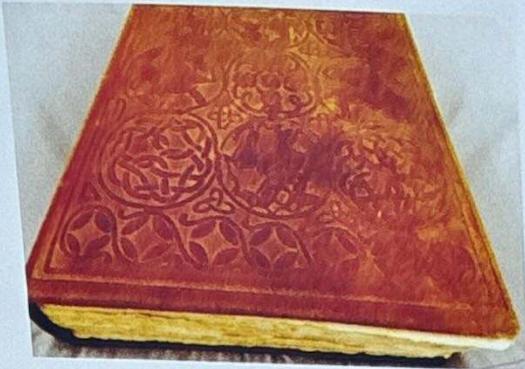
## Printed Manuscripts

The Library holds significant research resources in the form of facsimile editions and transcriptions of original manuscript material held elsewhere, most notably in the subject areas of Celtic and Irish studies and classical literature. The Irish manuscript pictured is the facsimile of the Book of Armagh, published by the Royal Irish Academy in 1913. The original, MSS 52 *Liber Adrmachanus*, is held in the Library of Trinity College Dublin and contains the earliest known copy of St. Patrick's Confessio.

Facsimiles of other Irish and insular manuscripts include the Books of Ballymote, Durrow, Kells, Leinster and Lindisfarne, as well as the Annals of the Four Masters and the Annals of Ulster.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, scholars began to systematically work on indexes or calendars of original documents, many of which dated back to the medieval period. The foundation of the Historical Manuscripts Commission in Britain and the Irish Manuscripts Commission assisted this work. Both bodies have published extensive calendars of documents, the originals of which, in some instances, no longer survive. The Library holds copies of these works.

Many, such as this wonderful Census of Elphin, originally carried out in 1749, are available in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room.

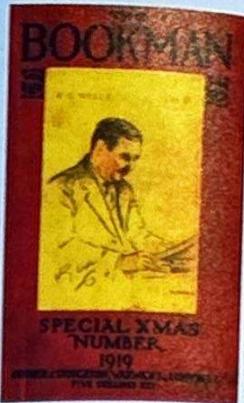


*Liber Adrmachanus: the Book of Armagh.* (Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 1913)  
St. Anthony's Collection.

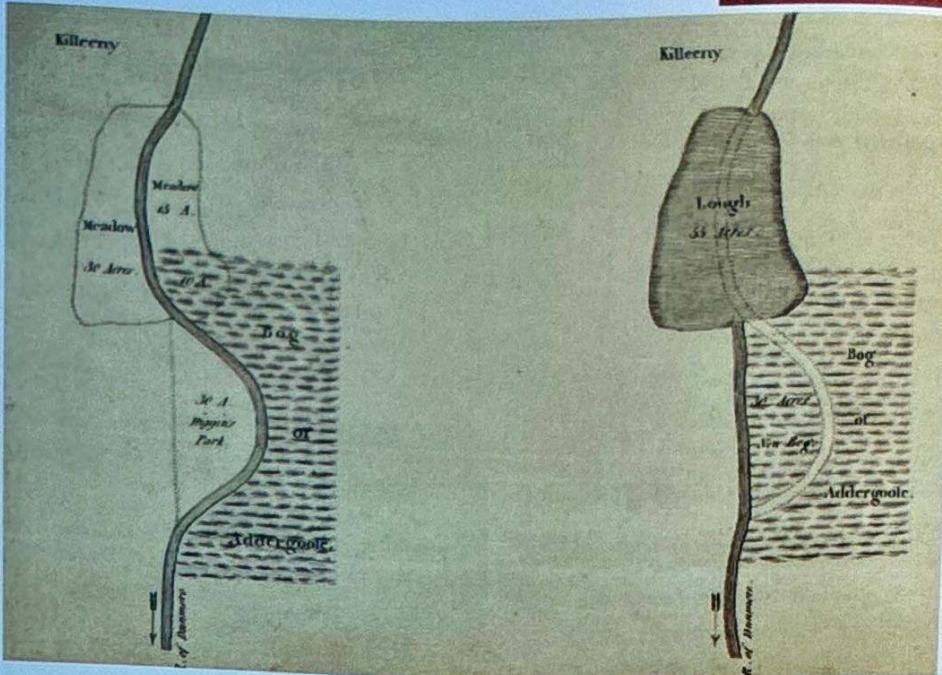
*The Census of Elphin*  
1749/Marie-Louise Legg(ed)/(Dublin, IMC, 2004). Special Collections  
Reading Room.

## Periodicals and Newspapers

Since its inception in 1849, the Library has collected periodical literature in the subject areas pertinent to study and teaching in the University. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, much of this material is acquired in electronic format. In the early years, however, periodical literature was produced to the same high standard as printed books, and many of the surviving volumes are fine examples of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century printing and bookbinding. *The Bookman* (pictured) indicates the level of quality produced at the time.

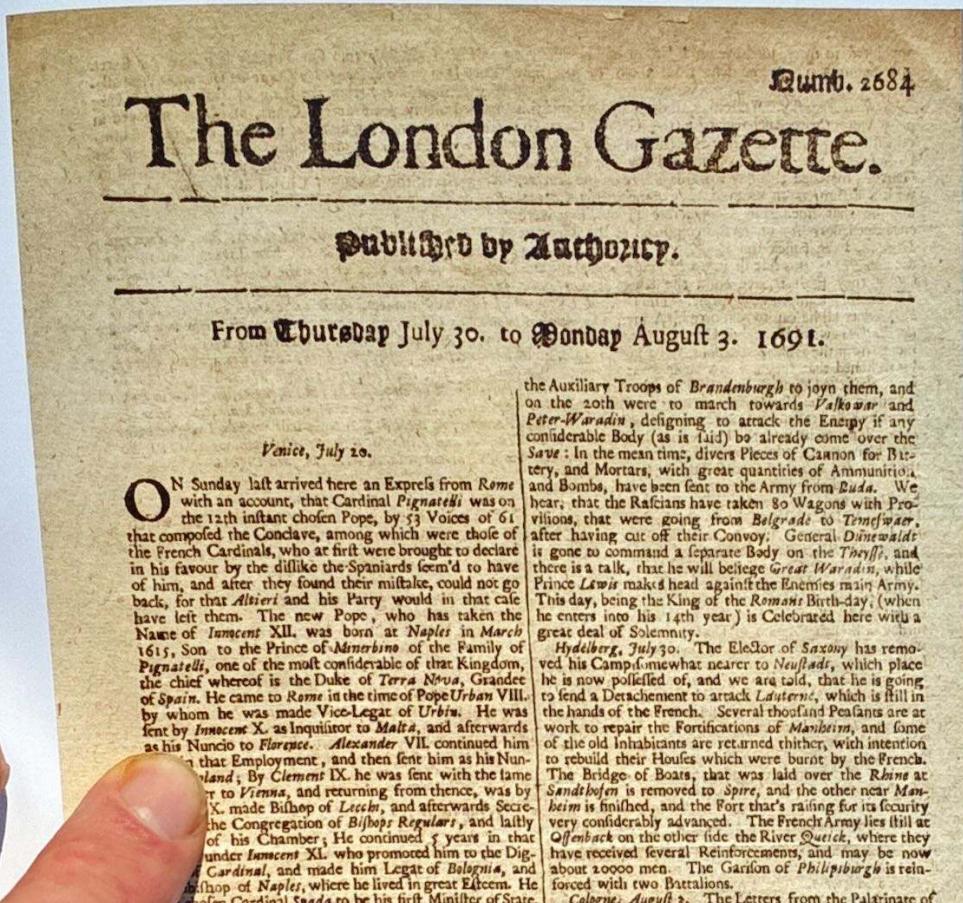


Ralph Ousley's Account of the moving of a bog, and the formation of a lake, in the county of Galway, Ireland from *Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy*, v2 (1788).



Our periodical collections also hold a mine of early scientific thinking: Richard Kirwan's essay on mountains for the *Philosophical magazine and journal* (1800), J.T. Mackay's post-*Flora Hibernica* (1836) Description of the botany of Ireland for the *Edinburgh new philosophical journal* (1838), Alfred Russel Wallace's defence of Darwinism in the *Quarterly journal of science* (1867), and the first ever issue of *Nature* (1869).

Past librarians recognised newspapers as valuable sources of first-hand accounts of historical events or, at times, significant statements of cultural shifts. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the library collected local and national newspaper titles. Newspapers, by their nature, are generally not a durable hardcopy resource and today access to many of these titles is afforded through microfilm or electronic format. Nonetheless, our collections include important hardcopy runs of Irish language newspapers, both from the Gaelic Revival period such as *An claidheamh soluis* and *An Connachtach* (pictured), as well as elements of locally produced titles such as *The Tuam Herald* and the *Tynagh Miner*. In addition, we hold specific hardcopy issues relating to major historical events, e.g.: the 16-20 July 1691 *London Gazette*, which features a description of the battle of Aughrim, and the special supplement issued by the *Connacht Tribune* at the time of the 1916 Rising.



The 16-20 July 1691 issue of the *London Gazette*, donated to the library by Norman Morgan in 2011.