Halloween

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Cover Art by Diana Sadova


Clarke, Edward H. Visions: A study of false sight. (Pseudopia). With an introduction and memorial sketch by Oliver Wendell Holmes. Boston: Houghton Osgood and Co., 1878. First Edition. Original gilt stamped green cloth. Hinges cracking, but still a decent copy. Interesting clipping on the "Use of Two Eyes" laid in. Visions was Clarke’s (1820-77) final work, a study of hallucinations and visions, and what causes them. The effects of various drugs (quinine, digitalis, opium, Indian Hemp (hashish), alcohol) on vision is among the topics covered. Very Good. $125

Dendy, Walter Cooper. The Philosophy of Mystery. London: Longman, Orme, Brown, Green, & Longmans, 1841. First Edition. xii + 443 pp. 8vo. Original brown cloth; spine ends bumped, but still a nice copy. This study has been described as "a critical examination in the form of a dialogue of the question of ghosts, specters, fantasies, mythology, and demonology. There are sections on sleep, dreams, sleepwalking, and trance. A chapter on mesmerism follows the tone of the rest of the book, seeking to bring a skeptical attitude to the extraordinary magnetic phenomena, and explaining all in terms of natural law, as opposed to supernatural intervention. A great deal of attention is devoted to detecting the presence of imagination, suggestion, and outright fraud." [Crabtree 438] Very Good+. $125


Dennis, J. Subversion of Materialism, by Credible Attestation of Supernatural Occurrences; dedicated to Mr. Lawrence, Surgeon, and Apostle of Materialism. London, 1826. First Edition. Divided into two parts: Part 1, Memoir of Fontelautus, infant son of Prebendary Dennis, comprising his demonical obsession, and diversified Apparition...and Part 2, Supernatural Anecdotes of various Families, concerning Dreams, Warnings, Haunted Wretches, Vindicative Witchcraft and more. Original plain boards, externally stained, but internally sound. Very scarce. Good+. $550

Mitchell, William Andrew, and William Newnham]. An Essay on Capacity and Genius; to prove that there is no original Mental Superiority between the most illiterate and the most learned of Mankind, and that no Genius, whether Individual or National, is innate, but solely produced by and dependent on circumstances. Also, an enquiry into the Nature of Ghosts, and other appearances supposed to be Supernatural. London: W. Simpkin & R. Marshall. First Edition. Published circa 1820 (a pencil note at bottom of title says 1815), this scarce anonymous book is divided into two parts. The first is usually attributed to William Andrew Mitchell, an essay on genius (where the environment is argued to be more critical than hereditary factors). The second, an "Enquiry into the Nature of Ghosts" is also anonymous, but to which the name William Newnham has been floated. The section on ghosts includes accounts of hauntings and various supernatural events. 8vo. 3/4 leather and marbled boards. Nice copy. Very Good+. $350


[Poe, Edgar Allan]. Graham's magazine 1845. Thick 8vo. Contemporary ¾ leather and marbled paper over boards. Light wear; a very good or better copy. 284 pp. An essay of Poe by James Russell Lowell appears for the first time in the February issue – with an engrave portrait identified as Poe. This year also contains the first printed appearance of Poe’s tale *The System of Dr. Tarr and Prof. Fether* (November), and a poem signed P, “The Divine Right of Kings,” that has been attributed to him. (October). Illustrated throughout, and with many additional literary contributions. $350

Summers, Montague. The Werewolf. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., 1933. First Edition. Publisher’s cloth, gilt-stamped lettering on spine; dust jacket printed in green and blue; pp. xiv, 307, plus 8 plates. Spine tips and edges of boards gently bumped; text block faintly foxed; ownership signature on FFEP. Scarce dust jacket in excellent condition, just a little rubbed and age-toned, with a few tiny closed tears or chips at spine tips and along edges of rear panel; presents very nicely in mylar. The author of numerous books on witchcraft and vampires now turns his expertise to lycanthropy; werewolves in Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, France, “the North,” Russia, and Germany; and werewolves in literature. Includes a bibliography, index, a note on “Witch Ointments” by Dr. H. J. Norman — and some delightfully grim plates. With a laid-in full-color illustrated advertisement for Werewolf Super-Charged Flashlight Crackers (fireworks made in Macau by Kwong Yuen Hang Kee Firecracker Factory). $800.00