

Lux Mentis, Booksellers

Lux Mentis specializes in fine press, fine bindings, and esoterica in all areas, books that have been treasured and will continue to be treasured. As a primary focus is the building and/or deaccessioning of private collections, our selections is diverse and constantly evolving. If we do not have what you are seeking, please contact us and we will strive to find it. All items are subject to prior sale. Shipping and handling is calculated on a per order basis. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding terms and/or with any questions or concerns.

This week we debut an Occult list filled with new acquisitions! Included are a few books on Freemasonry, African voodoo by the preeminent Black scholar Joseph Williams, and a rare imprint on water dowsing, among others. As always let us know if you have questions or would like images.

Spring Occult List

1: de Laurence, L.W. [Lauron William]. **The Human Heart Shown as a Temple of God and the Holy Spirit or a Workshop of the Devil and Evil Spirits.** Chicago, IL: de Laurence Company, [1935]1960?. [First American Edition]Reprint. Minimal shelf/edge wear, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Black cloth boards, gilt lettering, frontispiece. 8vo. 62pp. Illus. (b/w plates). Very Good. Hardcover. (#10357) \$200.00

De Laurence's publishing company (De Laurence, Scott & Co.) and spiritual supply mail order house was located in Chicago, Illinois. De Laurence was a pioneer in the business of supplying magical and occult goods by mail order, and his distribution of public domain books. He was a power house in publishing at the turn of the century for books on Hinduism, spiritualism, Mesmerism, fortune-telling, and general Victorian mysticism. De Laurence is also known for his simplified instruction methods and illustrating cases studies for spiritual clairvoyance. Translated from the original French into German, and then German to English.

2: Macoy, Robert. **The Amaranth (Independent): A Royal and Exalted Degree in the Rite of Adoption with Appropriate Ceremonies.** New York: Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., 1908. [First Edition]. Light shelf/edge wear, front hinge cracked (but tight), else tight, bright, and unmarred. Red cloth boards, black ink lettering and decorative elements, printed endpages, aeg. 12mo. 134pp. Illus. (b/w plates). Very Good+. Hardcover. (#10317) \$125.00

"The intention of the founder and early promoters of the RITE OF ADOPTION was to create a system that would

appeal to the highest and noblest aims in life. The tenets set forth in the first degree - the Eastern Star - contain some of the most sublime sentiments known to the human mind - Fidelity, Honor, Virtue, and everything that is pure and elevating . . ." The Rite of Adoption consists of the following degrees: ~ The Eastern Star ~ The Queen of the South ~ The Amaranth "The Rituals of these degrees have been prepared with great care. The high and noble principles inculcated in them appeal to the better instincts of the human mind"

3: Raphael [Robert Cross Smith (1795-1832), pseudonym], Isaac Robert Cruikshank; [illustrator]. **Raphael's Witch!!! Or the Oracle of the Future, by the Author of the Prophetic Messenger. With ten coloured designs on copper by R. Cruikshank & the Author, and a piece of music by Blewitt.** London: William Charlton Wright, [1831]. [First Edition]. Moderate wear, discoloration, otherwise tight, bright, and unmarred. 24pp, xxiv, 36pp + illus., 1 b/w foldout plate. 12 mo. Rebound in black library cloth with paper spine label. Incomplete [only a fraction of the text, pp 37-153 lacking, and lacking handcolored plates] Very Good. Hardcover. (#11282) \$250.00

Illustrated title page and present only one folding plates (uncolored): "The Mystical Wheel of Pythagoras" " Formerly owned by Alfred Pearce, noted 19th century astrologer. Includes annotations. Robert Cross Smith (1795-1832) was an English astrologer, writing under the pseudonym of "Raphael". He married in 1820 and moved to London, where he became interested in astrology. Together with G. W. Graham, he published a book on geomancy in 1822. Smith began to edit a periodical entitled "The Stragglng Astrologer" in 1824, but failed to receive enough subscribers and the periodical had to be discontinued after a few issues. He collected the issues of the failed periodical in a volume entitled "The Astrologer Of The Nineteenth Century" in the same year. From 1827 until his death in 1832, he edited an astrological almanac, entitled "The Prophetic Messenger." Also published by Smith was The Familiar Astrologer and A Manual of Astrology, both in 1828. Smith died on 26 February 1832 in London. His almanac continued to be edited as Raphael's Ephemeris and would become a standard work in British and US American astrology. Raphael's Ephemeris popularized the system of Placidian system of astrological houses in the English-speaking world and in modern western astrology in general. Published posthumously. Isaac Robert Cruikshank, sometimes known as Robert Cruikshank (27 September 1789 – 13 March 1856), was a caricaturist, illustrator and portrait miniaturist, the less well-known brother of George Cruikshank, both sons of Isaac Cruikshank. Just like them he holds importance as a pioneer in the history

of comics for creating several cartoons which make use of narrative sequence and speech balloons.

4: Encausse, Phillipe. **Papus -- Sa Vie - Son Oeuvre. Documents inédits sur Philippe de Lyon, maître spirituel de Papus, opinions et jugements, portraits et illustrations.** Paris: Éditions Pythagore, 1932. French edition. Toning, bent wrappers, discoloration to half-title, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Orange wrappers. 8vo, 87, 66pp. +illus, frontis, portrait. 25 cm. Presentation copy with inscription,+ ex libris. Very Good+. Original Wraps. (#11349) \$550.00

Biographical and bibliographic work written about Dr. Gerard Encausse (1865-1916), the French occultist and founder of the Martinist Order by his son, Phillipe. Translation of title: Papus: His life - his magical practices - his work - his disciples. Follow-ups of the catechisms of ... according to completely unpublished documents by Papus. The second part of the volume is a complete unpublished list of the works of Papus. Includes inscription from author (Papus) to the former owner, ex libris present of Alfred Legrand. Legrand wrote the introduction for Encausse's work "Sciences Occultes ou 25 Annees D'Occultisme Occidental." Legrand also published the works of Paul Sédir, occult botanist and esotericist. OCLC shows 8 holdings.

5: **Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star.** Chicago, IL: Authority of the General Grand Chapter, 1890. [First Revised Edition]. Light shelf/edge wear, bumping, sunning to boards, toning, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Blue cloth boards, gilt ink lettering and decorative elements, red edging, 16mo. 136pp. Illus. (b/w plates). Provenance and inscription within ffep. Very Good+. Hardcover. (#12294) \$125.00

"In pursuance of a call issued and endorsed by several Grand Chapters, a convention of representatives was held at Indianapolis, Indiana, November 16, 1876, and the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized.

A Ritual Committee, was appointed and in 1878 the General Grand Chapter adopted the work which was published by its authority. At the session in 1883, a Committee on Ritual was appointed, with instructions to receive all proper amendments and report the same at the next meeting. In 1886 the Committee was continued. At the session in 1889 the Ritual Committee presented a Ritual as the result of their labors, which was adopted."-- Introduction.

6: Williams, Joseph J., S.J. **Voodooos and Obeahs: Phases of West India Witchcraft.** New York: Lincoln Mac Veagh/Dial Press Inc., [1933]. First Edition, Fourth Printing. Light scuffing, bumped corners, light shelfwear,

mild toning to pages, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Brown cloth boards, blind device. 8vo. xxii, 257pp. Index. Bibliography. Presentation copy. Lacking dj. Laid in Carmelite Saint devotional card. Very Good+. Hardcover. (#12288) \$125.00

A critical study of voodoo and obeah spiritual beliefs, utilizing primary sources, scholarly investigations, and personal experiences. From the publisher: "The first scientific study of those weird practices which are connected with the mysterious Voodoo that has cast such a blight on the social and religious development of Haiti." Williams examines the history of voodoo and obeah in the Caribbean, specifically Jamaica and Haiti, traces them back to their roots in Africa and discusses the influence imperialism, slavery and racism had on their development. Joseph J. Williams was born in Boston in 1875 as the son of Nicholas and Mary Jane Williams. He was educated at home by his mother, a former Boston school teacher, and later at Boston College High. In 1893 he entered the Society of Jesus at Frederick, Maryland. After two years of scientific and philosophical studies at Woodstock College he was assigned to Jamaica from 1906 to 1907. Williams earned a doctorate in ethnology at Woodstock and was editor of America from 1910 to 1911. The next five years he served as a missionary in Jamaica. The author also spent numerous years studying black culture in Jamaica, an attempt to trace the many Hebrewisms, especially those found in tribes in West Africa, particularly among the Ashanti. Important work authored by a Black scholar on Afro-Caribbean spiritual beliefs. Signed and presented by the author, dated 1933 on ffep.

7: Randolph, Pascal Beverly; new introduction by Emerson Clymer and new preface by "M.A."; Dr. R(euben) Swinburne Clymer, publisher. **After Death: The Immortality of Man - The World of Spirits, its Location, Extent, Appearance; the Route Thither; Inhabitants; Customs; Societies; Also Sex and its uses there, etc. etc., with much matter pertinent to the question of Human Imortality.** Quakertown, PA: Philosophical Publishing Co., 1970. [First Edition Thus]. Light shelfwear and bumping, slight buckling, rubbing to boards, scuffing to endpapers and evenly toned throughout. Original teal cloth with faded gilt title and author to spine and "TRY" device to upper board. 8vo, [xx], 272pp. illus (b/w), portraits. No dj, as issued. Near Fine. Hardcover. (#12503) \$250.00

Randolph addresses death in this study: "After death, the souls travel to a vast and heterogeneous system of spirit realms — some located on belts around the planets, some in a zone that encircles all the galaxies, and others still beyond them — and arrive at a location corresponding to their spiritual development. The souls may be stuck where

they land, or they may continue the process of spiritual development and move through the "middle states" of the spirit world to reach an unimaginably radiant "soul world." Randolph's criteria for these celestial divisions varied over the course of his career. At times he delineates them in starkly racist terms, asserting that souls of African, Native American, and some Asian people inhabit the lower realms and stand little chance of leaving them. At other times (sometimes within the same text), he describes the dissolution of earthly categories in the afterlife. "Ties, blood, race, or family count for little or nothing over there", he writes in *After Death; or, Disembodied Man* (1868). And in his late work, he declares that the "choice abodes of spiritland" primarily belong to people of color. In his descriptions of the spirit realms, Randolph's racial thought oscillates excruciatingly between replicating the earthly categories that thwarted him and creating a world unto itself. In these latter instances, the spirit realms offer not only an exit from white supremacy but an eternity of redress, which gathers people of color from all over the earth to enjoy dominion beyond it."--*The Emancipatory Visions of a Sex Magician: Paschal Beverly Randolph's Occult Politics* (Public Domain Review). Reuben Swinburne Clymer (November 25, 1878 - June 3, 1966) was an American occultist and modern Rosicrucian Grand Supreme Master of the FRC (Fraternitas Rosae Crucis), perhaps the oldest continuing Rosicrucian organization in the Americas. He practiced alternative medicine and wrote and published works on it as well as (his version of) the teachings of Paschal Beverly Randolph (1825-1875), master of alchemy, nutrition, religion, sex magic and spiritualism. In either 1900 or 1904, Clymer got into publishing with his Philosophical Publishing Company, which he used to keep Paschal Beverly Randolph's books in print well into the 20th century. Clymer was deeply influenced by Randolph, of whom he created a hagiographic story of Randolph, using correspondence, court litigation transcriptions and mentions in surrounding press and other correspondence (i.e. Annie Besant). Regardless of the "accuracy" of Clymer's narratives and primary source citations, Randolph's life is so marginalized by occult scholarship, it isn't until Deveney's biography and the work of the Joscelyn Godwin do we have much reference to the research and writings of an important Black American figure so intrinsic with occult teachings and alternative medicine. Has the motto and device of Randolph on cover. Emerson M. Clymer, the younger son of Dr. R. Swinburne Clymer, was born on the 16th of October 1909. From a early age he worked by his father's side. In the early days Dr. Clymer found it most economical the print his own books and monographs and almost all of these were

originally hand-set by Emerson Clymer. (OCLC). [Source text: Wiki, "Paschal Beverly Randolph"]

8: Myer, Isaac. **Qabbalah: The Philosophical Writings of Solomon Ben Yehudah Ibn Gebirol, or Avicbron** Translated from the Chinese. London: Stuart and Watkins, 1970 [1888]. First (UK) Edition. Lightly chipped dj, some foxing and shelfwear, else tight, bright, and unmarred. 8vo. xxiv, 499pp. illus. (frontis, 39 b/w, 11 diagrams). Black and red lettering. Cloth. In mylar. Very Good in Very Good Dustjacket. Hardcover. (#12259) \$250.00

Remainder of title: And their connection with the Hebrew Qabbalah and Sepher ha-Zohar, with remarks upon the antiquity and content of the latter, and translations of selected passages from the same. Also An Ancient Lodge of Initiates. Translated from the Zohar, and an abstract of an Essay upon the Chinese Qabbalah, contained in the book called the Yih King; a translation of part of the Mystic theology of Dionysios, the Areopagite; and an account of the construction of the ancient Akkadian and Chaldean Universe, etc...

"In 1888, Isaac Myer published Qabbalah – The Philosophical Writings of Solomon Ben Yehuda Ibn Gabirol. It was the first comprehensive book on Kabbalah printed in the United States, and the most learned and up to date book on Kabbalah in English at the time. Myer believed that the study of Kabbalah and its ancient origins will revive Christian mysticism, and will enable the formation of a new theology, that will reunite all divided religions." --NYPLweb.

9: Vogt, Evon Zartman; Ray Hyman. **Water Witching U.S.A.** Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1959. First Edition. Minimal wear to dj, some spotting to tp, sunning, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Blue cloth with blue titling. xi, 248 pages, (b/w illus), 8vo, 23 cm; bibliographical references. Near Fine in Near Fine Dustjacket. Hardcover. (#11857) \$550.00

Despite advanced technology, the practice of water witching - using a forked stick to indicate an underground source of water - persists in both rural and urban areas. The book is look at dowsing, full of personal accounts, historical background, and data from controlled experiments and a nationwide survey. This study includes a collection of photographs, drawings, and historical woodcuts showing the tools, techniques, and early instances of dowsing, as well as cross-sectional views contrasting the dowser's explanation of groundwater with the geologist's analysis. One chapter is dedicated to water witching as magical divination, and folk magic, the rod is a wand. The analysis interviews diviners and farmers using wood specific tree branches for geographic locations. A cross section of rural folkcraft of tradition and agriculture mixed with folk magic belief. Both

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authors were faculty at Harvard University for anthropology and psychology.

10: Cruikshank, George, Scott, Sir Walter, Bart. **Twelve Sketches Illustrative of Sir Walter Scott's Demonology and Witchcraft.** London, UK: Published for the Artist, 1830. First Edition. Evenly toned and slight image transfer, upper loss to tp, although uncompromised, staining to front wraps, foxing throughout, not uncommon, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Bound in original brown wraps, gilt title to leather spine label to slipcase. Slipcase flap with removed binder ticket. Housed in a brown cloth 3-flap, with matching slipcase. 12mo. illus. (12 etched plates, each with a facing leaf of descriptive text) Very Good+. Original Wraps. (#12140) \$1,000.00

Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832) in the form of letters to his friend, later son-in-law and biographer J. G. Lockhart about witchcraft and trials, demonology, fairies and elves, astrology, ghosts, and magicians. Scott, in particular, discusses witch's marks, as one poignant topic, he writes, "... there is room also to believe that the professed pricklers used a pin, the point, or lower part of which was, on being pressed down, sheathed in the upper, which was hollow for the purpose, and that which appeared to enter the body did not pierce it at all." Such needles are described by [Robbins 24 (Figure 2)]. Howard P. Lovecraft described the work once as one of the best compendiums on European witchcraft. "The book takes the form of ten letters addresses to Lockhart, the epistolary mode permitting Scott to be both conversational in tone and discursive in method. In these, Scott surveys opinions respecting demonology and witchcraft from the Old Testament period to his own day." [Walter Scott Archives, Edinburgh University Library]. This illustration suites of prints are the 12 illustrated plates (sans text by Scott) by George Cruikshank's illustrations, those being: Corps de Ballet, The Spectre Skeleton; Goddess Freya, Elfin Tricks; Persecuted Butler; Elfin Arrow Manufactory; Fairy Revenge; Puck in Mischief; "Black John-Chastising the Witches"; Witches Frolic; Tak aff the Ghaist; and, The Ghost of Mrs Leckie. Scott's account is amply illustrated with anecdotes and traditional tales and may be read as an anthology of uncanny stories as much as a philosophical treatise with Cruikshank's own application of whimsy he is most known for. Scarce in original wrappers.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Ian J. Kahn

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