

New John Buchan stock - 25 January 2019

Sir Edward Leithen

Another of JB's trio of recurring major characters. The Leithen stories are generally less action-centred than the Hannay novels, although he does have his moments. JB often uses Leithen to explore philosophical and psychological concepts. All except *The Gap in the Curtain* are represented below.

The Power-House

The first Leithen novel in which he comes up against a powerful anarchist. JB explores the idea of a fine dividing line between civilisation and anarchy.

9402 VG first edition (1915) with copy dustwrapper. Blanchard A35. One of the nicest copies I have seen with a bright clean binding with just a faint scuff mark on the front. The corners are sharp and square, the hinges are not cracked and the pages are very lightly browned around the margins. Comes with a good quality facsimile d/w. **£60**

9387 VG reprint (1917) in VG- dustwrapper. As with later impressions of *The Thirty-Nine Steps* this impression has a smaller page size than the first edition, achieved by the simple expedient of trimming the margins closer to the text. The book is bound in brown paper covered boards with black lettering. Unusually for this cheap binding the book is in remarkably good condition with just a slight bump at the base of the spine which has creased the paper covering very slightly. Internally there are no bookplates or inscriptions and the hinges are firm and not cracked. Inevitably the page margins are browned but only slightly. Loosely inserted is a sheet of paper bearing some examples of increased price stickers used on later impressions. The pictorial d/w is also a remarkable survivor being bright, complete and only very slightly damaged. The front cover illustration is lovely and bright and the mostly white rear panel is very slightly soiled. There is some slight wear at the corners and spine ends which has been repaired/restored very carefully by a very capable restorer (not me!). An exceptional early book and d/w. **£500**

9485 Blackwood's Magazine (The Power-House) VG- issue no. MCLXXVIII December 1913. Complete issue; pages 715-874 inclusive. 24 pages of adverts at the front and contents pages for the Jul to December 1913 issues at the back. Bound in light orange card covers. The top and outer edges are trimmed but the lower edge is not. This issue starts with the first appearance in print of *The Power-House* which was not published in book form until 1915. The whole of the novel is here. The covers have some handling marks and the spine is worn at the foot. The corners are slightly creased. Internally bright with some creased page corners, mainly in the early part of the magazine. **£20**

John Macnab

Leithen in lighter mode. He and two friends, bored with summertime in London, head for Scotland and issue a sporting challenge to 3 estate owners. JB in lighter, gently humorous mood.

9481 VG+ in VG- dustwrapper. 1980 reprint by Macdonald Publishers. Green cloth with gold lettering. Very slight fading along the top and bottom edges but overall in excellent condition. The pictorial dustwrapper is very bright but has slight creasing in places. **£18**

9366 G+ Nelson Uniform edn (1952) in G+ red/white d/w. Book is bright but damaged around the spine. D/W has ink stains and ragged spine. **£6**

The Dancing Floor

The third Leithen novel starts with an introductory section set in Westmorland but the bulk of the story takes place on the Greek island of Plakos. A young Englishwoman is threatened by a resurgence of ancient superstitions amongst the islanders. One 1930s essayist described it as “one of the first novels to be influenced by *The Golden Bough*.”

9427 VG- US reprint by AL Burt (early 1930s). Green cloth with black lettering. Extremities lightly rubbed and the spine is a little faded. Bright internally. **£10**

Sick Heart River

The Leithen story is brought to an end with this powerful novel set in the far north of Canada. An ailing Leithen sets out to search for a financier who has vanished into the frozen wilderness.

9452 VG in VG- dustwrapper. First Canadian edition. Blanchard A132 (note). This has the same title as the UK edition but has the same internal layout as the US edition and also contains the lengthy introduction by Howard Swiggett as in the US edition. Dark blue loth with gold lettering. Blind stamped JB monogram on the front. The top edge is green. Very good indeed except for 3 tiny white marks on the rear panel. The illustrated d/w has rubbing on the surface of the front panel (not uncommon with this d/w) and a one-inch x half-inch piece missing at the top of the rear panel. **£20**

Poetry

Although JB had only one volume of poetry published he also wrote many fragments of poetry which are scattered through his works. In addition he had a keen interest in poetry of the past and, at the same time, encouraged the work of new poets, particularly those who wrote some or all of their poetry in Lowland Scots. As a result he wrote a number of forewords and introductions to collections of poetry and contributed individual poems to some works.

The Pilgrim Fathers

The poem with which Buchan, at the second attempt, won the Newdigate Prize for Poetry in 1898. Published by Blackwell's in booklet form with card covers this is a rare title.

9356 VG first edition. Blanchard A6. Buchan's 1898 Newdigate prize winning poem. Very slightly browned along the spine and there are a couple of small brown spots on the front. Other than this it is in excellent condition with the sewn binding intact. Rare. **£350**

Poems Scots and English

The only collection of JB's poetry published in his lifetime. It contains 14 poems in Scots and 14 in English. Originally published by T.C. & E.C. Jack Ltd. Publication was soon afterwards taken over by Nelson; the format of the book was left unchanged. In 1936 a revised edition was published in Nelson's Uniform edition; this is the rarest title in that series.

9357 VG 4th impression (undated). As A43 but published by Thomas Nelson & Sons. Dull lettering on the spine but otherwise very good throughout. The fly-leaf bears an inscription by JB. **£100**

9396 VG large paper third impression. Blanchard A43 has a note referring to the original large paper edition which was limited to 50 copies. At the time of production of the third impression,

published undated by Thomas Nelson's (the first 2 impressions were published by TC & EC Jack), a further large paper version was published in the same format as the first but it is not known how many copies this was limited to but it is certainly a rarity. Same format as the earlier version. Covers lightly browned and slightly rubbed corners. Very bright internally. Small bookplate on the paste-down. **£50**

9395 VG- Another peculiarity! This is a copy of the third impression, published by Nelson. However, the binding is non-standard and so is the book itself. Firstly, the book. At first glance it is a large paper edition but careful examination shows the page size is slightly smaller. It does not have the uncut edges of the standard large paper version so presumably has been trimmed down. However, the paper has a slight glossiness to it which is unlike the paper used for both the standard and large paper versions. As to the binding, this is in a pale grey-green cloth with no lettering but with blue and white patterned endpapers. The front cover has a small rectangular mark where a label seems to have been – title? There are also signs of the spine having had a further covering, possibly contrasting. There are no bookplates or annotations to indicate its history. One wonders if it may have been a trial by Nelson's of an alternative binding. Very good internally except that the top corner of the fly-leaf is torn away. The binding has a few handling stains. **£40**

9489 VG+ Nelson Uniform green leather edition (1936). The rarest title in this series published only in the revised edition. But for a hint of rubbing it is in excellent condition. **£40**

John Buchan's Collected Poems edited by Andrew Lownie and William Milne

This excellent book draws together all of JB's poetry and adds brief editorial comment.

9209 VG+ first edition. During Buchan's lifetime only one volume of his poetry was published but there were many other poems scattered through his writing and many of his novels contain fragments of poetry. 232 pages Illustrated card covers. Excellent condition throughout but for the residue of a small label on the back cover. **£12**

The Book of the Horace Club

The Horace Club was an Oxford undergraduate club. The members read and wrote poetry and for a time JB was the secretary of the club. In 1901 a collection of poems by members was published in a vellum-bound edition limited to 500 copies. Five poems by JB are included.

9497 VG- The vellum binding is lightly soiled although the gilt lettering and decoration remain bright. Browned endpapers but otherwise bright internally. **£65**

9498 VG The spine is lightly browned and slightly 'crusty'. The covers are very lightly marked but remain bright. Browned endpapers but otherwise excellent internally. A nice copy. **£100**

A Beggar's Wallet compiled by A Stodart Walker

Published as a fund-raiser for a hospital charity this large book includes the first appearance in print of JB's poem *The Song of the Sea Captain* which was later included in *Poems Scots and English*.

9479 VG first edition (1905). Blanchard C5. A hospital charity anthology it contains JB's poem *The Song of the Sea Captain*, later included in *Poems Scots and English*. The vellum spine is very lightly browned and the corners are gently bumped. There are one or two light scuff marks and a small

water stain on the front. Overall the binding and the gilt top edge remain very bright. Internally the book is in excellent condition with all the illustrations retaining their tissue guards. **£15**

Rab and his Maister by Geo Hope Tait

First world poetry in lowland Scots, written in the form of messages from a shepherd to his dog. Foreword by JB. A rare title.

9491 VG first edition (1918). Blanchard C26. WWI poetry written in the form of a shepherd's messages to his dog. Foreword by JB. Covers lightly scuffed but otherwise undamaged. Internally bright with occasional brown spots and slight creasing in places. A very rare title. **£90**

Robert Browning edited by Henry Newbolt

A selection of Browning's poetry, prose and drama with an introduction by JB.

9385 VG undated reprint of Blanchard C32. A selection of Browning's poetry, prose and drama, selected and edited by Henry Newbolt and with an introduction by John Buchan. 539 pages Bound in sage green cloth with black lettering and decoration. There is a frontispiece illustration of Browning. The spine is very slightly faded and there are a few pencil annotations in the contents pages but otherwise very good throughout. **£5**

9386 VG- undated leather bound reprint of Blanchard C43. Internally as the first edition but bound in soft green leather with gold lettering, an index ribbon and floral patterned endpapers. The spine is lightly browned and the leather is scuffed in places but otherwise VG. **£7**

William Morris edited by Henry Newbolt

A selection of Morris's prose and poetry with an introduction by JB.

9377 VG in a VG- dustwrapper. Undated reprint. A selection of Morris's poetry and prose with a 6-page introduction by JB. As C33 internally but bound in blue cloth with gold lettering. A little rubbed and crushed at the ends of the spine but otherwise very good. The d/w, bearing a portrait of Morris, is lightly scuffed and soiled and has some neat internal repairs. Surprisingly rare in a d/w. **£10**

Matthew Arnold edited by Henry Newbolt

A selection of Arnold's poetry with an introduction by JB.

9431 VG in Poor dustwrapper. Undated reprint of Blanchard C34 bound in soft green leather with gold lettering. A little patchy fading on the covers but generally very good throughout. The d/w has the whole of its spine missing although a small piece of it is tucked inside the book. What remains is lightly browned and is ragged around the edges. Priced as if no d/w. **£5**

9472

Sangschaw by Hugh M'Diarmid

M'Diarmid was the nom de plume of CM Grieve. He was an influential figure in the Scottish Renaissance and a founding member of the National Party of Scotland. *Sangschaw* was his first collection of poetry and includes a preface by JB.

9448 VG+ first edition (1925). Blanchard C40. This copy is virtually as new but for very slight rubbing at the lower corners and edges. An exceptional copy. **£45**

Songs o' the Clachan by Sir Ian Malcolm of Poltalloch

Lowland Scots poetry with a foreword by JB.

9421 VG- in VG- dustwrapper. First edition (1929). Blanchard C126. Generally very good but the gold lettering and decoration are rather dull. The fly-leaf bears a presentation inscription from the author. The unclipped d/w has a lightly sunned spine and is ragged along the top edge of the rear panel. There is a small stain on the outer edge of the front panel. **£35**