

*Turnbull Library Record*

BLACKSTONE, William. Commentaries on the laws of England. 4 volumes. Oxford, 1765-9. Morocco binding by Riviere.

Lawyers describe this as the most eloquent and best digested of all law catalogues. Of these commentaries Sir Wm. Jones, eminent 18th century jurist wrote "they are the most correct and beautiful outline that ever was exhibited in any human science." Sundry passages, strongly advocating the liberty of the subject, were expunged in subsequent editions.

BOSWELL, James. The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D. 2 volumes, London, 1791. Calf binding.

Apart from its excellence as a biography, Boswell's biography records many of Johnson's letters and a number of arguments in various causes, dictated to him by Johnson. Here these appear for the first time. Additions of a similar nature appeared in the second edition. The usual "cancellanda" are present here.

BROWNE, Sir Thomas. Religio Medici. London, 1642. Engraved title page. Morocco bound by Tregaskis.

This first of two unauthorized editions preceded the authorized ones of 1643 and is relatively rare. The book was immensely popular in its day, both in England and abroad, despite certain opposition. Shortly after publication it was placed on the Index Expurgatorius of the Roman Church. De Quincey wrote lavishly of it: "What a melodious accent as of a prelude to some impassioned requiem breathing from the poms of earth, and from the sanctities of the grave!"

BROWNING, Elizabeth Barrett. Sonnets. Reading, 1847. Morocco bound by Riviere.

Commonly known as *Sonnets from the Portuguese*, this collection will probably never lose its repute as poetry, whatever the bibliographic fate of the book consequent upon the disclosures in Carter and Pollard's *An enquiry in the nature of certain nineteenth century pamphlets*, 1934. Though something of the earlier halo of romance surrounding the publication has been lost, the curiosity attaching to an imputed forgery has accrued.

BROWNING, Robert. Men and Women. 2 volumes. London 1855. Original cloth binding.

Notable as being the most enduring collection of Browning's poetical works.

BUTLER, Samuel, Hudibras. 3 volumes. London, 1663-4, 1678. Calf bindings.