KARL MARX

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LONDON
KARL MARX

REMARKABLE FIRST EDITIONS, PRESENTATION COPIES, AND AUTOGRAPH RESEARCH NOTES

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Marx: then and now

“The history of the twentieth century is Marx’s legacy. Stalin, Mao, Che, Castro … have all presented themselves as his heirs. Whether he would recognise them as such is quite another matter … Nevertheless, within one hundred years of his death half the world’s population was ruled by governments that professed Marxism to be their guiding faith. His ideas have transformed the study of economics, history, geography, sociology and literature.”

(Francis Wheen, Karl Marx, 1999)

We present a remarkable assembly of first editions and presentation copies of the works of Karl Marx (1818–1883), including groundbreaking books composed in collaboration with Friedrich Engels (1820–1895), early articles and announcements written for the journals Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher and Der Vorbote, and scathing critical responses to the views of his contemporaries Bauer, Proudhon, and Vogt.

Among this selection of highlights are inscribed copies of Das Kapital (Capital) and Manifest der Kommunistischen Partei (Communist Manifesto), the latter being the only copy of the Manifesto inscribed by Marx known to scholarship; an autograph manuscript leaf from his years spent researching his theory of capital at the British Museum; a first edition of the account of the First International’s 1866 Geneva congress which published Marx’s eleven “instructions”; and translations of his works into Russian, Italian, Spanish, and English, which begin to show the impact that his revolutionary ideas had both before and shortly after his death.
The Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher is the publication which brought Marx and Engels together, leading to a lifetime of fruitful collaboration and warm friendship. The two men had met once before, when Engels visited the office of the radical Rheinische Zeitung in 1842, of which Marx had been appointed editor just one month prior. Marx, mistakenly believing that Engels was associated with the Berliner Young Hegelians, received him coolly, and they parted somewhat distrustful of one another. When the Rheinische Zeitung was forced to close in March 1843 under the weight of state censorship, Marx and his fellow editor Arnold Ruge decided to produce the Jahrbücher as a way of reuniting German and French socialists. Engels was among the impressive list of contributors, alongside Mikhail Bakunin, Ludwig Feuerbach, and Heinrich Heine.

The very rare first and only issue contains the first appearance of both Marx’s first major work, Zur Kritik der Hegel'schen Rechtsphilosophie (including his famous remark that religion is “das Opium des Volks”), and Engels’s first work on economics, Umrisse zu einer Kritik der Nationalökonomie, which was to have an immense impact on Marx’s subsequent writings. Around 1,000 copies were printed, but 800 were soon confiscated by German police.

Having come to respect each others’ work, Marx and Engels met for the second time at the end of August 1844 in Paris, and their almost complete agreement in all theoretical fields concretised their friendship.
MARX, Karl, & Arnold Ruge (editors & contributors). Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher ... 1ste und 2te Lieferung [double number, all published]. Paris: Bureau der Jahrbücher, 1844.
The second meeting of Marx and Engels in August 1844 was also the beginning of their first collaboration, a critique of their former associates of the Young Hegelian school whose views were still very popular in academic circles.

Taking *Kritik der kritischen Kritik* (Critique of Critical Criticism) as a working title, they agreed to co-author the foreword, and divided up the other sections between them. Engels completed his portion of 20 pages while still at Marx’s apartment in Paris, but it was several months before he would realise that the agreed-upon pamphlet had, under Marx’s pen, grown to more than 300 pages and had been renamed *Die heilige Familie* (The Holy Family), a sarcastic reference to the Bauer brothers and their supporters.

“The considered as the production of young men, the book is a remarkable piece of critical work, alike by reason of its brilliant style and the great learning it displays ... The importance of the work for us lies in the evidence it affords of the development of the theory of historical materialism in the mind of Marx. In place of the brief and almost vague hints which appeared in the Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher articles, there is a more positive and emphatic tone.”

(John Spargo, *Karl Marx: His Life and Work*)
Die heilige Familie, oder Kritik der kritischen Kritik.
Gegen Bruno Bauer & Consorten.

Friedrich Engels und Karl Marx.

Frankfurt a. M.
Literarische Anstalt (J. Rütten).
1845.

In 1846 the French anarchist Pierre-Joseph Proudhon published his chief work, *Système des contradictions économiques ou philosophie de la misère*. Though Marx had previously been on amicable terms with Proudhon—he had defended Proudhon’s denunciation of private property in *Die heilige Familie*—he violently opposed the economic message of *Philosophie de la misère* and immediately began composing a response. Isaiah Berlin called the result, *Misère de la philosophie*, issued in a small edition of 800 copies, “the bitterest attack delivered by one thinker upon another since the celebrated polemics of the Renaissance”.

A masterpiece of critical writing, it is biting satirical in its trivialization of Proudhon’s theories and quickly created a sensation in radical circles. Perhaps most significantly, it furthered the development of Marx’s materialistic conception of history, namely that history must be interpreted in the light of economic development.
The only known copy of the Communist Manifesto inscribed by Marx

The Communist Manifesto is widely acknowledged to be one of the most influential political documents of all time. Its sharp analysis, moral passion, and stylistic eloquence presented communism as the necessary and inevitable product of the historical development of capitalism. Few texts have been reprinted so many times or translated into so many languages.

Commissioned by the Communist League’s second congress in December 1847, the Manifesto was completed the following January and published in London, fittingly just before the beginning of the French and German revolutions of 1848. The Hirschfeld edition is often styled “the third ‘first’ edition”, with precedence given to the two other editions dated 1848, both printed in London by Burghard. Census records for the printer and mentions of the edition’s production in Marx’s correspondence suggest that the Hirschfeld edition was in fact printed during the early 1860s, around the same time that Hirschfeld was printing Herr Vogt for the German publisher Alfred Petsch. All three editions are very rare.

This is an exceptional presentation copy of the Communist Manifesto, inscribed to the French revolutionist and the Marx family’s close friend Gustave Flourens, “À mon ami Gustave Flourens. Karl Marx. Londres, 1. Mai. 1870”. It remains the only known copy of the Manifesto to be inscribed by Marx. The only other presentation copy known to scholarship is that inscribed by Engels to Alfred Herman, the Belgian socialist.

Flourens (1838–1871), though a naturalist and biologist by profession, distinguished himself foremost as a revolutionary through his participation in a number of uprisings
across Europe during the 1860s and 70s, before being elected to the Paris Commune. During his visits to the Marx family in London in April 1870 he became a close personal friend, and was admired by them for his integrity and passion.
The incendiary nature of the Communist Manifesto resulted in Marx’s expulsion, in quick succession, from Belgium, Germany, and France, and he arrived in London from Paris in August 1849. As he struggled to come to terms with the Revolution of 1848 and experienced increasingly strained relations with his associates, he spent considerable time in the British Museum, studying in depth source materials in an attempt to establish and explain a world theory of capital.

In this, the 20th leaf from the second of 24 notebooks that he filled between 1850 and 1858, he transcribes extracts from J. W. Gilbart’s A Practical Treatise on Banking in his almost indecipherable hand, combining English transcription with German commentary:

“Der stockbroker, too, will call ‘after the market is open’, to inform the banker ‘how things are going’ on the Stock Exchange, welche Operationen Statthaben, und ob Geld abundant oder scarce ‘in the house’ ist, ebenso die rumours ‘afloat betreffend die funds’...”
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MARX, Karl. Autograph manuscript leaf of notes, part of his research notes made in the British Museum prior to his authorship of Das Kapital. [No place, but London: c.1850]
Nine years into his research in the British Museum, Marx published Zur Kritik der politischen Ökonomie, his first attempt at a general statement of his economic theories and his treatment of the history of value and monetary theory. Though initially planned as a multi-volume work, Marx’s dissatisfaction with it meant that no further parts were written or published. Considered the “germ” of Das Kapital, it is the first major Marxist contribution to the interpretation of history and political economy.

“In the social production of their life, men enter into definite relations that are indispensable and independent of their will, relations of production which correspond to a definite stage of the development of their material productive forces. The sum total of these relations of production constitutes the economic structure of society, the real foundation, on which rises a legal and political superstructure and to which correspond definite forms of social consciousness. The mode of production of material life conditions the social, political and intellectual life process in general. It is not the consciousness of men that determines their being, but, on the contrary, their social being that determines their consciousness.”

(Introduction to Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, Selected Works I, pp. 362–4)
Reacting to accusations of royalist espionage printed in the London-based refugee newspaper Allgemeine Zeitung, and wrongly presuming Marx to be behind the defamation of his character, the politician Karl Vogt published a short pamphlet, Mein Prozess gegen die Allgemeine Zeitung, in 1859, in which he viciously slandered Marx, Engels, and their supporters.

Pausing in his research into his theory of capital, Marx took the best part of a year away to pen a vitriolic reply, Herr Vogt, refuting each accusation levied against him almost line-by-line, ridiculing Vogt’s assertions and wittily denouncing his attacker for intrigue and double-dealing. It was printed by Hirschfeld, the London-based German printer responsible for printing “the third ‘first’ edition” of the Communist Manifesto.
Marx’s “instructions” to the 1866 Geneva Congress

Marx, alongside a number of French and British radicals, founded the International Workingmen’s Association (the “First International”) in London in 1864, and he delivered the inaugural address at their first meeting.

This document comprises the account of the First International’s first congress, held in Geneva in 1866, covering the proceedings, including the opening statements of Dupleix and Becker, listed as the presidents of the French and German sections respectively.

Marx was unable to attend the event in person, preferring to stay in London working on Das Kapital, but his 11 “instructions” were read and are here published. The Congress’s emphatic support for the eight-hour working day led to this aim becoming a major goal of the international socialist movement.
MARX, Karl. 

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(FIRST INTERNATIONAL.)
When the first volume of Marx’s magnum opus, Das Kapital, was finally published on 14 September 1867, its reception by the German press was muted. In anticipation of this, Marx and Engels worked hard to place notices in various international papers, with only limited success.

Marx had earlier written to Johann Philipp Becker, the founder and editor of the revolutionary socialist journal Der Vorbote, in April 1867 to pre-emptively ask for his help; as a result, the first advance announcement appeared, unsigned, in Der Vorbote’s issue of the same month, with two more printed in the June and July issues. The official announcement of publication was printed in the September issue, quickly followed by another in October, the latter, along with two articles on the Lausanne Congress and the Geneva Peace Congress, written by Marx’s wife Jenny due to her husband’s ill health. The November announcement was the first to appear under Marx’s name.

These were some of the earliest notices to be printed after Capital’s publication and are all included in this volume, along with other highly valuable contributions from most of the major figures of 19th-century international communism.

This complete run of Der Vorbote has an exceptional provenance, being from the library of the German radical journalist and agitator Johann Most (1846–1906), who played a part in Capital’s publication history and with whom Marx had an important relationship.
MARX, Karl. Advance announcements of the publication of Das Kapital. [In:] Der Vorbote. Geneva: Verlag der Association, 1867.
Hailed as one of the most influential pieces of writing in world history, *Das Kapital* was the culmination of Marx’s many years’ work in the British Museum, first printed in Hamburg in an edition of 1,000 copies. In it Marx provided an analysis of commodity production and his theory of class exploitation, ultimately revealing the inherently contradictory nature of a capitalist economy.

One of a very few presentation copies of the first edition known to have survived, this copy is warmly inscribed by Marx to the leader of the First International in Belgium, César De Paepe, not quite a year after publication: “Au citoyen César de Paepe, salut fraternel, Karl Marx, Londres 3 Septembre 1868”.

De Paepe (1841–1890) is considered, with Mikhail Bakunin, the co-founder of collectivist anarchism. While De Paepe was an early disciple of Proudhon, he often gravitated toward Marx’s positions and was counted second only to Marx as a theoretician of the First International. The dating of this inscription is particularly significant, just three days before the Brussels Congress of the First International, at which the conflict with the French Proudhonists came to a head. Marx did not attend, but he skilfully managed events from London, effectively sidelining Proudhon’s theory and influencing a number of delegates to accept contentious resolutions regarding collective land ownership. Extracts from the machinery chapter were read aloud, and the General Council also passed a resolution recommending that working men in all countries study Marx’s book.
Das Kapital.

Kritik der politischen Oekonomie.

Von

Karl Marx.

Erster Band.

Buch I: Der Produktionsprozess des Kapital.

Hamburg
Verlag von Otto Meissner.
1867.


Das Kapital complete in three volumes

The first volume of Das Kapital was the only one published during Marx’s lifetime; volumes 2 and 3 were seen through the press by Engels in 1885 and 1894, edited directly from Marx’s manuscripts. The episodic publication means that complete sets in uniform bindings have inevitably been bound later.
The first translation into any language of Das Kapital

The first foreign translation of Das Kapital to be published was the Russian, appearing in Petersburg bookshops in April 1872. Issued in 3,000 copies, with a complacent comment from the censor (“few people in Russia will read it, and fewer still will understand it”), the book was, however, very successful, and rapidly sold out. Marx thought the translation “masterly” and in 1880 he wrote to Friedrich Sorge, his chief co-worker in America, that “our success is still greater in Russia, where Das Kapital is read and appreciated more than anywhere else.”

Marx had been closely involved in the process of creating an edition for Russian readers, and corresponded often with the translators German Aleksandrovich Lopatin and Nikolai Frantsevich Danielson.

After Marx’s death in 1883, when Engels was preparing the other volumes for publication in German, he sent advanced proofs of both volumes to Russia for translation. Unfortunately Engels did not live to see the work completed; he died in 1895, the year before the final volume of the Russian translation appeared in St Petersburg.
In 1870, the Italian socialist Carlo Cafiero (1846–1892) met Marx and Engels in London, and was recruited to their cause. He returned to Italy, accepting their offer to become the special agent in Italy of the International’s General Council, but within just two years he had joined Bakunin and the anarchists. Imprisoned in 1877, Cafiero read the French translation of Capital while incarcerated and was once more captivated by the author’s work.

His commentary and abridged translation of Capital—the first appearance of the work in Italian, and one of the earliest abridgments—began to be published in instalments in the newspaper La Plebe, and in 1879 the abridgment Il Capitale di Carlo Marx appeared in print in its entirety. Cafiero sent two copies to Marx in London, who admired the translation greatly, and encouraged Cafiero to revisit the themes addressed in Capital in further critical work.
IL CAPITALE

DI
CARLO MARX

PREVEMENTE COMPENDIATO

DA
CARLO CAFIERO

L'operaio ha fatto tutto; è l'operaio può distruggere tutto, perché può tutto rifare. Un lavoratore italiano.

LIBRO PRIMO
Sviluppo della Produzione Capitalista

MILANO
C. BIGNAMI E C., EDITORI
Corso Venezia, 5
1879.
Capital in Spanish

The small Spanish newspaper La República, under the editorship of the federalist Pablo Correa y Zafrilla (1844–1888), announced its intention to publish a serialised, abridged translation of volume one of Capital in early 1886. The first instalment was sent to subscribers in February and publication was completed by mid-1887. Due to the brittle, poor quality of the paper stock—the same used for printing the newspaper—and its very small print run, thought to number no more than a thousand copies in total, El Capital remains exceptionally rare.

Brief excerpts from Marx’s writings had been translated into Spanish before, but Zafrilla’s translation, based on the first French translation (1872–5) by Joseph Roy, was the first concerted effort to present in full the message of Capital to a Spanish readership.
Samuel Moore, a lawyer and translator active in the Manchester IWMA, was engaged by Engels to provide an English translation of Capital, which, as a close friend of both Marx and Engels, he had studied since its publication. Moore was joined in this project by Edward Aveling in 1884—the same year that Aveling began his relationship with Marx’s daughter, Eleanor—and the translation was published, with Engels’s approval, in January 1887. Using the text of the German edition of book 1 as its foundation, Moore and Aveling’s translation takes into account the substantial changes which Marx made for the French translation, published in livraisons between September 1872 and November 1875.

This is the first stereotyped UK edition issued in a single volume, reprinting the original translation, which was published in two volumes in an edition of 500 copies.
1 MARX, Karl, & Arnold Ruge (editors & contributors). Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher ... 1ste und 2te Leiferung [double number, all published]. Paris: Bureau der Jahrbücher, 1844

BINDING: Octavo (232 x 147 mm). Contemporary brown diagonal-ribbed cloth, rebacked preserving the original gilt spine, brown endpapers, marbled edges.

CONDITION: A couple of faint, neat marginal markers made in pencil (pp. 179, 225). Spine and inner edge of boards sometime varnished, extremities rubbed and corners bruised, contents foxed with a few tiny chips to edges, else a very good copy.

LITERATURE: Rubel 36–38.

£62,500 [129812]


BINDING: Octavo (215 x 135 mm). Uncut in the original printed wrappers, rebacked. Housed in a custom made red half morocco bookform case, marbled paper boards, and matching chemise.

CONDITION: Wrappers soiled in places with a few closed tears, discreet tape repairs to verso of wrappers strengthening extremities, some small areas of dampstain to book block edges, mostly in first and last gatherings, edges friable and top and fore edges of contents lightly browned throughout, in all a very well-preserved copy.

LITERATURE: Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels, p. 7; Draper ME76; Rubel 44.

£42,500 [129813]


EDITION: First edition, one of 800 copies printed.

BINDING: Octavo (237 x 155 mm). Uncut and partly unopened in the original printed paper wrappers. Housed in a red quarter morocco solander box by the Chelsea Bindery.

CONDITION: Wrappers lightly dust soiled, spine perished and partly missing, front joint professionally repaired, sewing still firm, corners and edges a little chipped; without the errata leaf, as often; a very good copy.

LITERATURE: Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels, p. 10; Draper ME81; Rubel 55; Sraffa 3837.

£25,000 [119971]


BINDING: Octavo pamphlet (212 x 138 mm), 24 pp. Original blue plain paper wrappers, sewn. Housed in a custom made red quarter morocco box, marbled sides, together with a second custom made red full morocco box.

CONDITION: Front wrapper annotated in pencil vertically, “Manifeste du parti Communiste, Karl Marx, Dedicace [sic]”, tear to upper corner of the same repaired, with traces of earlier tape repair remaining, rust marks to pp. 4–5, 16 from paper clips sometime attached, now removed. Wrappers a little soiled with some chips to extremities, contents browned and a little creased with a few tiny closed tears to fore edges, small faint patch of dampstain to first stitch hole, gutters of pp. 20–3 foxed, else a very well-preserved copy.

LITERATURE: Andréas 41; Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels, p. 14; Kuczynski 6.3; Rubel 70 (*Hirschfeld*). On Flourens and his role in contemporary French revolutionary events,
see Frank Jellinek, *The Paris Commune of 1871* (1927), passim.

**POA** [129804]

5  **MARX, Karl.** Autograph manuscript leaf of notes, taken from the second of 24 notebooks filled by Marx during his time in London, researching texts in the British Museum prior to his writing *Das Kapital*. [No place, but London: c.1850]

Contents: Single manuscript leaf (201 x 163 mm), two pages of 33 and 32 lines respectively, each page approximately 500 words in length. Now carefully attached at left edge to a single sheet of buff paper using Japanese tissue, then window mounted in a custom made frame.

Condition: Inner margin frayed with some loss, particularly at head and foot, short tears skilfully and almost invisibly repaired; affecting some text (approximately eight words total, with partial loss to first words of a further ten or so sentences). Leaf browned around the edges with a few small areas of discolouration, else well-preserved and in very good condition.


£75,000 [129810]

6  **MARX, Karl.** Zur Kritik der politischen Ökonomie. Erstes Heft [all published]. Berlin: Franz Duncker, 1859


Binding: Octavo (209 x 136 mm). Contemporar y green pebble-grain half cloth, spine lettered in gilt, green marbled paper boards, pale grey endpapers, edges marbled green and red.

Condition: Binding very slightly shaken, light wear to extremities, top of hinges starting to split but otherwise firm, endpapers and contents foxed; a very good copy.

Literature: *Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels*, p. 23; Draper ST/M115; Rubel 529; Sraffa 3839.

£75,000 [129811]


Binding: Octavo (226 x 149 mm). Original publisher’s printed wrappers, spine skilfully renewed. Housed in a custom made chemise and slipcase, lettered in black.

Provenance: Ownership inscription at the head of the title-page of the Italian Socialist Luigi dal Pane, noting the earlier ownership of the Italian Marxist theoretician Antonio Labriola. Additional stamp of a Swiss collector to front wrapper.

Condition: Spine skilfully renewed and covers lined with some neat restoration. Occasional light spotting and staining as usual. Occasional light wear to extremities, top of hinges starting to split but otherwise firm, endpapers and contents foxed; a very good copy.

Literature: Draper M-406; Rubel 629.

£20,000 [128994]


Binding: Octavo (204 x 122 mm), a complete run (72 monthly issues from 1866 to 1871). Recent purple half morocco and marbled paper boards, new endpapers, retaining the original front free endpaper. Spine lettered and dated in gilt (with the title misspelled as “Der Verbote”).

Provenance: Contemporary ownership inscription of “J. Most”—Johann Most (1846–1906)—in blue pencil, a second inscription to title page of April 1869 issue, and occasional annotation to the text.

Condition: Contents generally clean with occasional spotting and dampmarks, some stabholes visible at gutters, a few issues trimmed in the binding process, those printed on inferior paper stock fragile at the margins and with a few short tears and more toning than others, 1 full leaf (April 1868) and 1 half-leaf (January 1870) cut away and 4 other instances of excised portions clipped from the text by a previous owner; a rare survival.

£15,000 [120907]


Binding: Octavo (214 x 130 mm). Contemporary half calf with gilt-stamped spine title and marbled covers. Housed in a red quarter morocco solander box by the Chelsea Bindery.

Provenance: Presentation copy from Marx to César De Paepe.

Condition: Light toning throughout, with some occasional discoloration near the beginning, a tiny tear to the top edge of p. 353f., but generally very well-preserved.

Literature: Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels, p. 32; Draper M129; Printing and the Mind of Man 359; Rubel 633; Sraffa 3842.

POA [116802]


Binding: 3 vols. (two parts of the third volume bound together), octavo. I (209 x 134 mm): contemporary dark green pebble-grain cloth-backed black pebble-grain cloth boards, rebound preserving the original spine. Housed in a custom made grey quarter morocco and green cloth boards solander box. II (212 x 130 mm): contemporary dark red half morocco, spine lettered in gilt, ruled and decorated in gilt and blind, raised bands, marbled paper boards, yellow endpapers, edges marbled. III (211 x 137 mm): contemporary black half calf, rebound preserving the original gilt-decorated flat spine using black crushed morocco, marbled paper boards, patterned endpapers, edges marbled, red silk book marker.

Condition: I: Bookplate of Ernst and Grete Preuss to front pastedown. Spine ends and joints very discreetly repaired, front hinge cracked but firm, the very occasional mark to contents else a fine, crisp copy. II: Bookplate of Austrian Social-Democrat journalist and politician Friedrich Austerlitz to front pastedown; his red library stamp to the title page and final leaf; a second, smaller stamp reading “Fritz Austerlitz” to title page with stamped library mark, “1036” above the title, amended in pencil. Spine faded, extremities worn with some scuffing to boards, hinges strengthened with black cloth, contents crisp and clean. III: Bookbinder’s ticket, “F. A. L. Hugo Ww u. Sohn” of Hamburg, to rear pastedown, red pen and purple stamped library markings to title and facing page. Spine ends and corners professionally refurbished, hinges strengthened with black cloth, some very faint spotting to the bottom edge of the second volume, else in fine condition.

Literature: Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels, p. 32; Draper M129, 133, 134; Printing and the Mind of Man 359 (vol. 1 only); Rubel 633, 635 & 636; Sraffa 3842, 3867, 3884.

£115,000 [129808]


Binding: Octavo (237 x 153 mm). Contemporary black half roan, marbled paper boards, spine ruled in blind and gilt in compartments, new twin black spine labels to second and fourth compartments, new endpapers. Complete with the half-title.

Condition: Russian blindstamp to top edge of title page. Sometime expertly refurbished, extremities and boards worn and scuffed, endpapers a little marked, contents lightly soiled and creased with some infrequent foxing, the occasional pencil or ink marginal annotation, overall a very good copy.

Literature: Die Erstdrucke der Werke von Marx und Engels, p. 33 (vol. I only); Rubel 633n; Sraffa 3858.

£27,500


Binding: Octavo (172 x 113 mm). Bound with the first Italian translation of J. S. Mill’s The Subjection of Women in contemporary marbled boards, roan leather spine, ruled in blind, direct lettered gilt, edges sprinkled green and blue.

Condition: Ownership inscription to each half-title of Nicola de Berardini. Spine ends and corners lightly rubbed, spine with a few spots of surface wear, paper stock of Il Capitale lightly browned; a very good copy.

Literature: Draper M129 note; Sraffa 3862.

£22,500

MARX, Karl. El Capital. Traducción por Pablo Correa y Zafrilla. Madrid: Dionisio de los Ríos, 1886[–?]


Binding: Tall quarto (250 x 175 mm). 20th-century red marbled calf by Brugalla, spine lettered in gilt, spine and boards panelled with single gilt fillet, red marbled endpapers, uncut and unopened.

Condition: Binder’s stamp of Emilio Brugalla (1902–1985), the leading Spanish binder of the 20th century, to front free endpaper verso dated 1937; bookseller’s ticket to rear free endpaper recto (Librera Catalònia); tax stamps of the Spanish crown (“timbre 3 pesetas 10 kilos Madrid”), with their arms, to margins of 11 pages. Corners gently rubbed, contents browned and occasionally foxed, edges friable with some short tears, small area of dampstain to head of gutter of book block and dampstain to edges of half-title and title leaf; closed tear (3 cm) to fore edge of leaf 8.1, a few closed tears and punctures to fore edge of 18.4. Overall a well-preserved copy of a fragile publication, finely bound.

£125,000


Design: Nigel Bents; Photography: Ruth Segarra.
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