

CHURCHILL

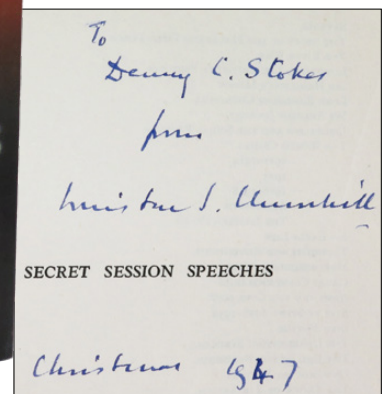
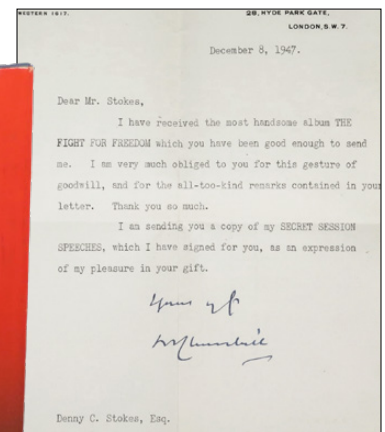
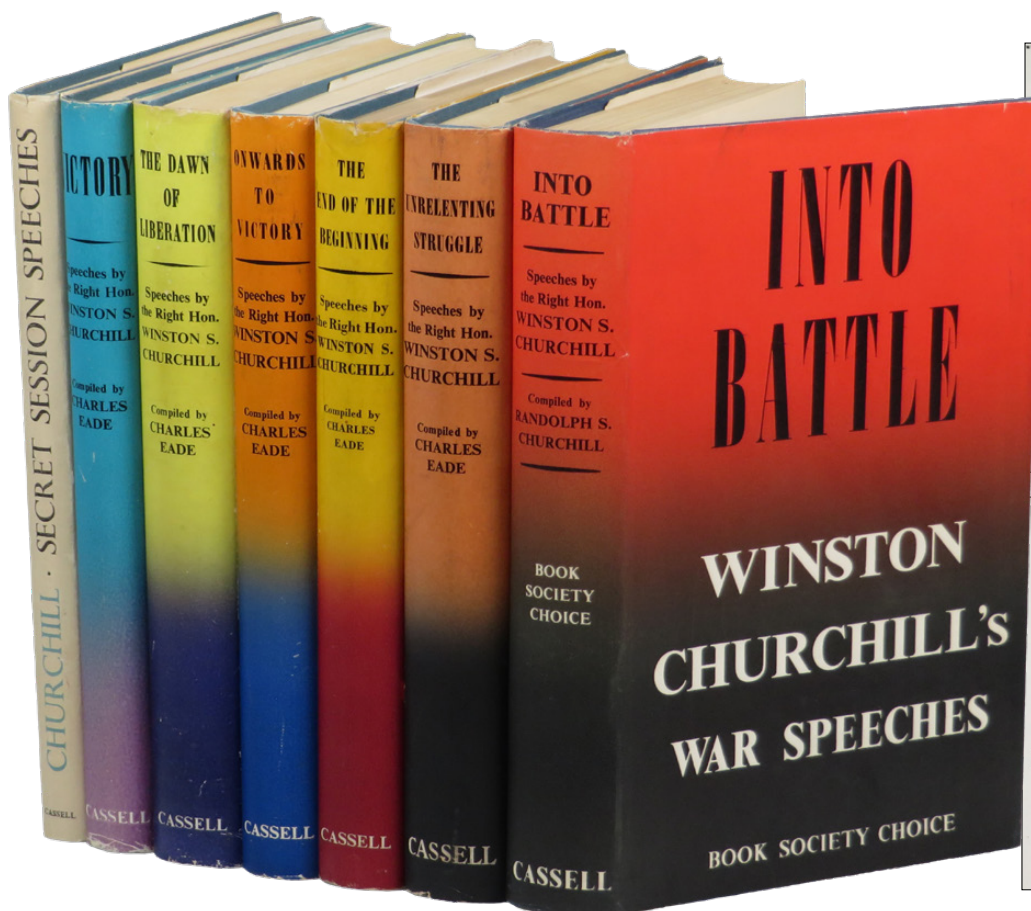
BOOK COLLECTOR

For five extraordinary years he led wartime Britain. He also wrote. 58 books. 260 pamphlets. 840 articles. 9,000 pages of speeches. And won the Nobel Prize in Literature. Our job is to help Churchill's words find your shelves.

EXTRAORDINARY FIRST EDITIONS

*A compelling collection of Winston S. Churchill's
first edition works*

2024



*A full set of seven first editions of Winston Churchill's war speeches
offering a vanishingly rare trifecta of virtues – magnificently fine condition,
Churchill's dated inscription, and a presentation letter signed by Churchill*

Churchill Book Collector specializes in material by and about Sir Winston S. Churchill, who was not just an iconic statesman, but also one of the twentieth century's most prolific and accomplished writers, earning the Nobel Prize in Literature.

We also offer noteworthy first and collectible editions by other authors ranging from Xenophon to T. E. Lawrence, spanning exploration and empire to contemporary literature.

Whatever authors you collect, we are able to help assemble full collections or acquire individual volumes, tailored to accommodate your preferences and budget.

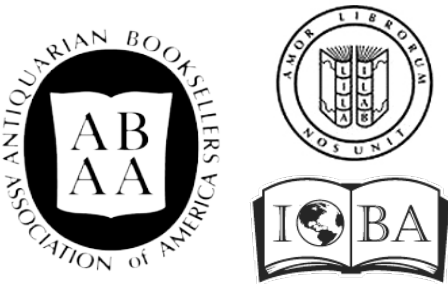
Our full inventory, including detailed descriptions and multiple images of each item we offer, may be searched on our website:

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CHURCHILL BOOK COLLECTOR

Money, time, and luck. You need all three to build a superlative collection. Sure, money lets you seize upon those rare opportunities to fill a collection gap with something truly exceptional. But even if you have means, you still need time and luck to find those opportunities.

Then again, if you are truly lucky, perhaps a patient collector and a seasoned bookseller will do all of the work for you.

This catalogue offers a singular collection of first edition, book-length works by Winston S. Churchill. Herein are 55 individual items containing a total of 125 volumes which, together, are one of the finest Churchill first edition collections in the world. A few of the items are merely special. The majority are extraordinary. Some are likely unique. Nearly all would be standouts in any collection. As you read, you may find us repeating superlatives; we ran out.

This collection was amassed over a period of more than thirty years by a single collector. The goal of the collection was to acquire truly compelling examples of British and U.S. first editions. It certainly took money, time, and luck.

While this catalogue is about far more than signed or inscribed items, it is worth mentioning that 13 of the 55 items herein are significantly signed or inscribed, 9 of these by Churchill. The Churchill signatures span 1900 to 1964, the entire arc of Churchill's long and storied political career.

The word "compelling" is both intentional and intentionally broad. In some cases, condition was prioritized. That's why this catalogue includes, for example, the best, jacketed copy of *Liberalism and the Social Problem* known to survive, and four of the nine total dust jackets known to survive for the British and U.S. first editions of *Lord Randolph Churchill*. In other cases, association seemed more compelling than condition. Examples include a British first edition of *London to Ladysmith via Pretoria* inscribed by Churchill on 12 August 1900, while he was campaigning for his first seat in Parliament, and the U.S. first edition of *My African Journey*, signed and inscribed by Churchill "Uganda is defended by its insects." In some cases, there is a splendid alignment of both condition and association. Examples include the best first edition set of *The River War* we have ever seen, which also happens to be the only publisher's pre-publication review set we have ever seen, and the best jacketed copy of *A Roving Commission* of which we are aware, inscribed and dated by Churchill in 1931.

May you find as much pleasure in browsing this catalogue as we did in preparing it for you.



<i>Item 1</i>	The Story of the Malakand Field Force	<i>Pages 1 - 4</i>
<i>Item 2-4</i>	The River War	<i>Pages 5 - 12</i>
<i>Items 5 & 6</i>	Savrola	<i>Pages 13 - 16</i>
<i>Items 7 & 8</i>	London to Ladysmith via Pretoria	<i>Pages 17 - 22</i>
<i>Items 9 & 10</i>	Ian Hamilton's March	<i>Pages 23 - 27</i>
<i>Item 11</i>	Mr. Brodrick's Army	<i>Page 28</i>
<i>Items 12 & 13</i>	Lord Randolph Churchill	<i>Pages 29 - 35</i>
<i>Item 14</i>	For Free Trade	<i>Page 36</i>
<i>Items 15 & 16</i>	My African Journey	<i>Pages 37 - 42</i>
<i>Items 17-19</i>	Liberalism and the Social Problem	<i>Pages 43 - 50</i>
<i>Item 20</i>	The People's Rights	<i>Pages 51 - 52</i>
<i>Items 21-23</i>	The World Crisis	<i>Pages 53 - 62</i>
<i>Item 24 & 25</i>	My Early Life / A Roving Commission	<i>Pages 63 - 70</i>
<i>Items 26 & 27</i>	India	<i>Pages 71 - 77</i>
<i>Items 28 & 29</i>	Thoughts and Adventures / Amid These Storms	<i>Pages 78 - 82</i>
<i>Items 30 & 31</i>	Marlborough: His Life and Times	<i>Pages 83 - 88</i>
<i>Items 32 & 33</i>	Great Contemporaries	<i>Pages 89 - 92</i>
<i>Items 34 & 35</i>	Arms and the Covenant / While England Slept	<i>Pages 93 - 98</i>
<i>Items 36 & 37</i>	Step By Step	<i>Pages 99 - 102</i>
<i>Items 38-42</i>	The War Speeches	<i>Pages 103 - 118</i>
<i>Items 43-46</i>	The Second World War	<i>Pages 119 - 128</i>
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<i>Items 49 & 50</i>	Painting as a Pastime	<i>Pages 135 - 137</i>
<i>Items 51 & 52</i>	A History of the English-Speaking Peoples	<i>Pages 138 - 143</i>
<i>Item 53</i>	Frontiers and Wars	<i>Pages 144 - 146</i>
<i>Item 54</i>	The Collected Essays of Sir Winston Churchill	<i>Pages 147 - 148</i>
<i>Item 55</i>	The Dream	<i>Pages 149 - 151</i>
	Thoughts on "The gentlest of infirmities"	<i>Pages 153 - 154</i>

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www.churchillbookcollector.com

1

The Story of the Malakand Field Force

The first edition, only printing, first state, a double family association copy inscribed and dated in April 1898 by Winston's "favorite aunt" Leonie Leslie to the husband of Winston's American cousin
Longmans, Green, & Co., London, 1898

This is a double family association copy of the first edition, only printing, first state of Winston S. Churchill's first published book. The enthusiastically proud inscription, inked on the half-title in four lines, reads "*David Thomson | from the Author's | Aunt! | April 98*". The date is the month following 14 March 1898 publication and the inscription in the hand of Winston's "favorite" Aunt Leonie to the husband of Winston's cousin.

Condition

While the inscription renders this book exceptional, this copy would be noteworthy for condition alone. The book is a beautifully clean, near-fine copy. The lack of an errata slip and rear catalogue dated "12/97" identify first state. The green cloth binding is square, tight, and unfaded with no appreciable color shift between spine and covers, sharp corners, and bright gilt on both the front cover and spine. We note only some wrinkling to the spine ends, a superficial blemish to the rear cover, and very light soiling, mostly to the lower front cover fore edge. The contents remain bright, apart from customary toning of the endpapers and adjacent leaves. All maps are intact, including folding maps at pages 1 and 146, as are the frontispiece and tissue guard and the original black endpapers. Spotting is light for the edition. Apart from the inscription, the only other previous ownership mark, discussed below, is an embossed device associated with the estate of Churchill's cousin.

The book is housed in a full green Morocco goatskin Solander case featuring a rounded, hubbed spine, the spine bands gilt rule framed and gilt decorated, the covers with gilt rule borders, the interior lined with green velvet. Condition of the case is as-new, with no reportable wear, soiling, blemishes, or fading.

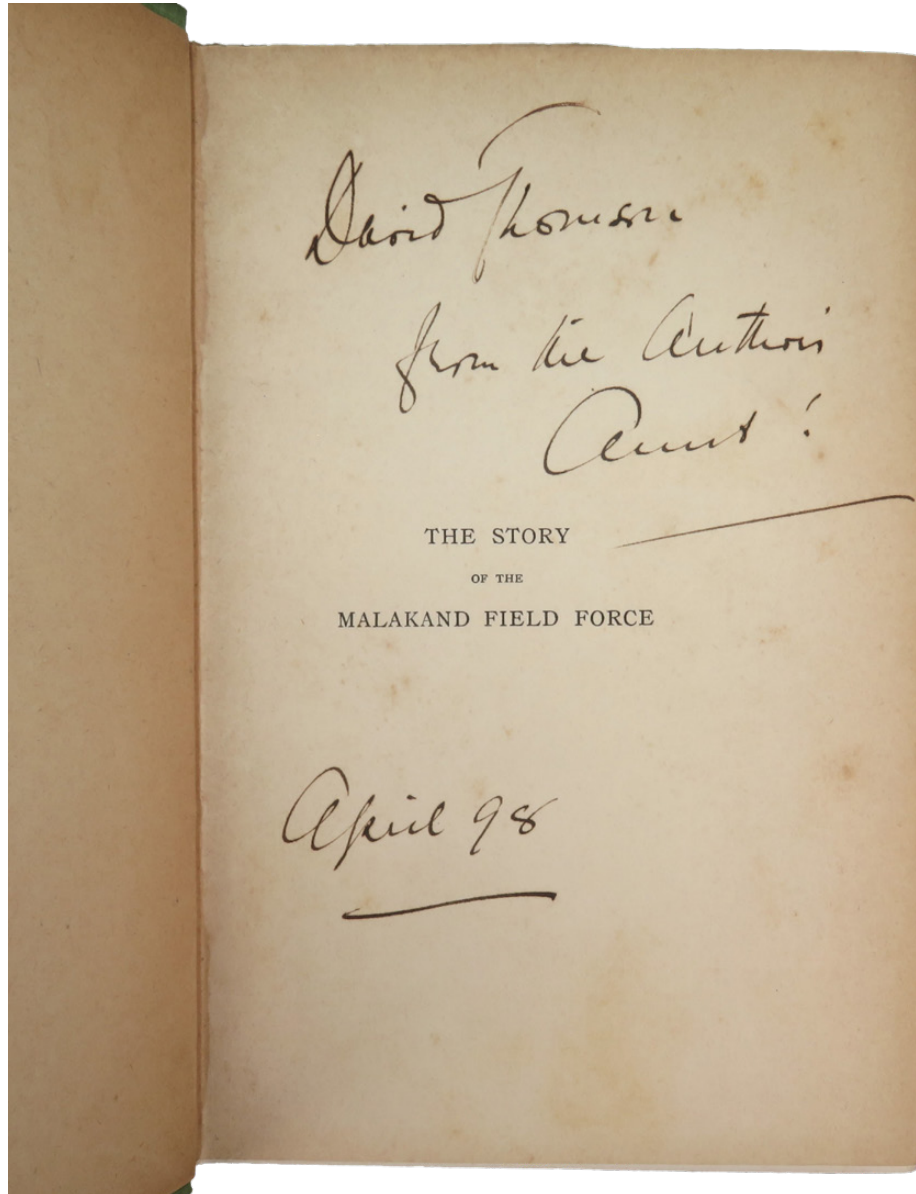
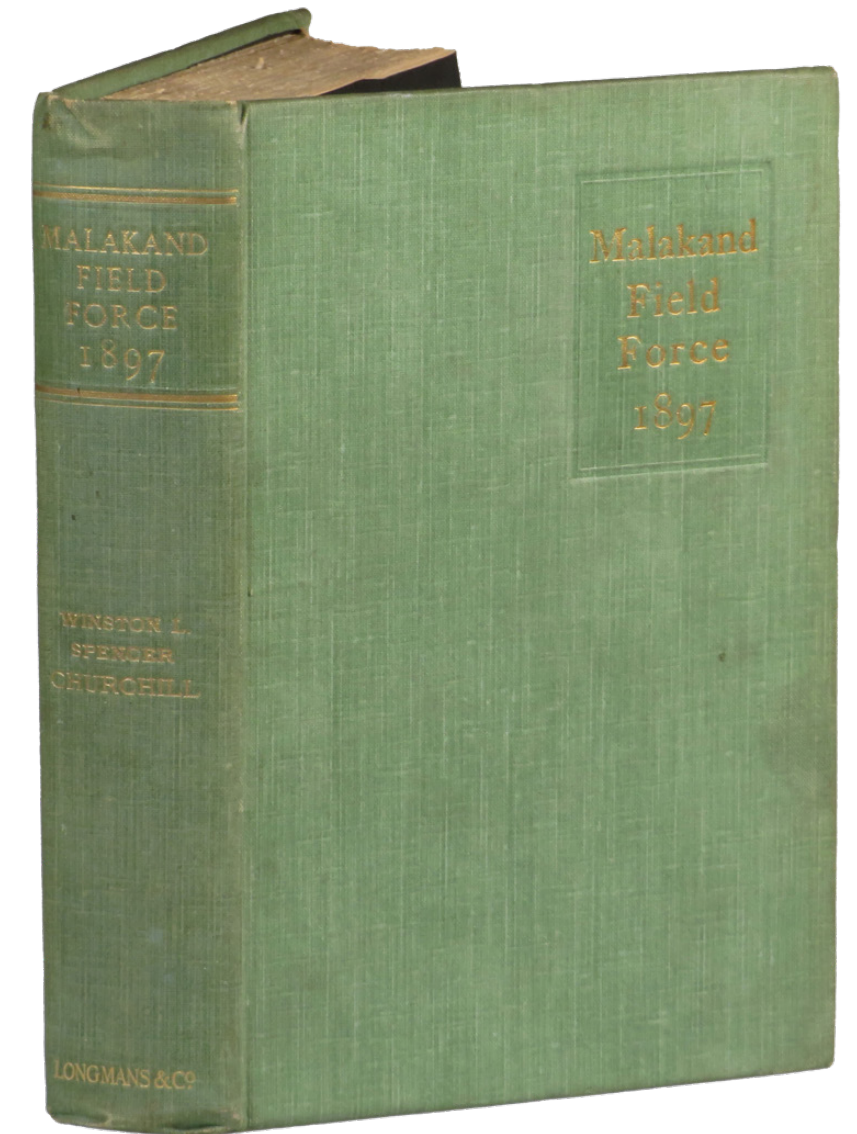
Winston's "favorite aunt"

The inscription was written by Lady Leonie Blanche (nee Jerome) Leslie (1859-1943), youngest of the three famous Jerome sisters – including Clara and Jennie, the mother of Winston Churchill. Jennie's marriage in 1873 to the son of the Duke of Marlborough both produced Winston Churchill and introduced her sisters to aristocratic England, from which their own marriages would ensue. In 1884, Leonie wed Sir John Leslie, an Anglo-Irish baronet (from 1916, upon succeeding his father).

Leonie "was not a radiant beauty like her two glamorous sisters but... she had great charm and impeccable manners. Her conversation was witty yet thoughtful, and her insights delicate and perceptive." (Kehoe, *Fortune's Daughters*, p.111) Winston, fifteen years his aunt's junior, maintained a lifelong relationship with her. "...it was often 'Tante Leonie' who took Winston in hand during his holidays." (FD, p.151) Aunt Leonie sketched the outline of the heroine in Winston's first and only novel, helped him furnish his first bachelor flat, and corresponded with him throughout his adult life. She remained important to Winston. The year before she died, on 14 September 1942, she wrote to her nephew: "I am all puffed up with pride at your great achievements, yes, puffed out like an old pouter pigeon." In his last letter to her, of 1 August 1943, he wrote to her "You have sent me a lot of charming messages which have cheered me greatly on this long journey. They give me, what no one else can give me, the link with my youth and with my mother." Leonie called Winston her favorite nephew (*Irish Independent*) and she, in turn, was his favorite aunt.

Forty-five years after she inscribed this book, Leonie died while her nephew, then Britain's wartime Prime Minister, was in Quebec for a conference with U.S. President Roosevelt and Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King. When Leonie was buried, it was reportedly with "between her fingers a silver coin Winston sent her for luck..." (24 August 1943 letter from Shane Leslie to Seymour Leslie)

Making the book still more a family affair, the famously slipshod editor of *The Story of the Malakand Field Force* was Moreton Frewen, the husband of Leonie's sister and Churchill's other maternal aunt, Clara. Moreton, who was no better with money than he was with editing, earned the family nickname "Mortal Ruin" for his financial failures.

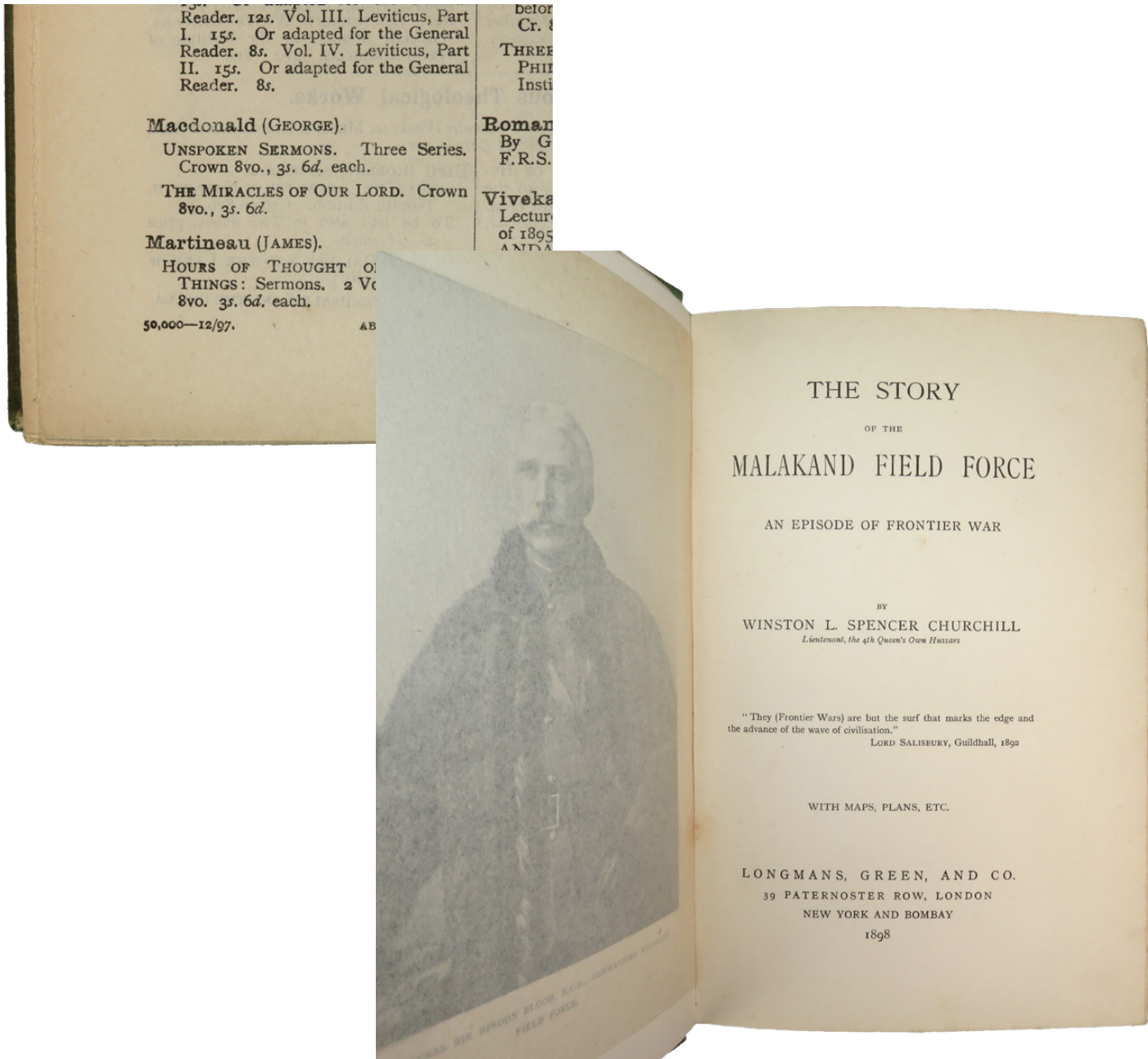


David Thomson & Eva Purdy

The recipient of this copy, David Thomson (1853-1906), a lawyer in the New York City firm of Foster & Thomson, was the husband of Eva Purdy Thomson (1860-1917). Eva was an American cousin of Winston Churchill, the daughter of Catherine Purdy (nee Hall), sister of Mrs. Leonard Jerome (nee Clarissa Hall), Winston's maternal grandmother.

Churchill was hosted and helped by Eva during his first visit to New York in 1895, writing to his mother "Eva is in great form and talks unceasingly – but has arranged things very well. She has engaged an excellent valet and – as I told you made every sort of arrangement for us." (Letter of 10 November 1895). Churchill later inscribed several books for Eva's husband, including *The River War* (1899) and *Lord Randolph Churchill* (1906).

The upper right blank margin of p.1 features the circular embossed device of "Nepahwin, Inc 1917". In 1914, a few years before her death, Eva married the Rev. George Monroe Royce, rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, New Windsor-on-the-Hudson, New York. Nepahwin was the informal name of Eva's estate near New Windsor-on-the-Hudson. In the year of her death, the property was reportedly converted to an incorporated retreat for religious workers.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



The Edition

The Story of the Malakand Field Force is based on young Winston Churchill's exploits with Sir Bindon Blood's expedition on the Northwest Frontier of India in 1897. When this book was written and published, Churchill was a young cavalry officer still serving in India. While he had successfully applied his pen as a war correspondent - indeed the book is based on his dispatches to the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Pioneer Mail* - this was his first book-length work. The young Churchill was motivated by a combination of pique and ambition. He was vexed that his *Daily Telegraph* columns were to be published unsigned. On 25 October 1897, Churchill wrote to his mother: "...I had written them with the design... of bringing my personality before the electorate." Two weeks later, his resolve to write a book firming, Churchill again wrote to his mother: "...It is a great undertaking but if carried out will yield substantial results in every way, financially, politically, and even, though do I care a damn, militarily." Having invested his ambition in this first book, he clearly labored over it: "I have discovered a great power of application which I did not think I possessed. For two months I have worked not less than five hours a day."

The finished manuscript was sent to his mother on the last day of 1897 and published on 14 March of 1898. Dozens of books followed this first over the next six decades, helping Churchill earn his livelihood, his place in history, and a Nobel Prize in Literature. Publication was arranged by Churchill's uncle while the author was still in India, resulting in numerous spelling and detail errors. Churchill was incensed by the errors and acted with haste to address them. Hence later states of the first edition bear errata slips. Home Issue copies also bear a 32-page Longmans, Green catalogue bound in at the back, which is dated either "12/97" or "3/98" at the foot of page 32.



Reference: Cohen A1.1.a, Woods/ICS A1(aa), Langworth p.12 [CBC #002579]

\$11,500 USD

The River War

Published in two volumes in 1899, the first edition of Churchill's second book is compelling in every respect – aesthetically, narratively, and bibliographically.

Mohammed Ahmed was a messianic Islamic leader in central and northern Sudan in the final decades of the 19th century. In 1883, the Mahdists overwhelmed the Egyptian army of British commander William Hicks, and Great Britain ordered the withdrawal of all Egyptian troops and officials from the Sudan. In 1885, General Gordon famously lost his life in a doomed defense of the capitol, Khartoum, where he had been sent to lead the evacuation of Egyptian forces. Though the Mahdi died in 1895, his theocracy continued until 1898, when General Kitchener reoccupied the Sudan.

With Kitchener – to his vexation – was a very young Winston Churchill, who participated in the decisive defeat of the Mahdist forces at the battle of Omdurman in September 1898.

In this book about the British campaign in the Sudan, Churchill - a young officer in a colonial British army - is unusually sympathetic to the Mahdist forces and critical of Imperial cynicism and cruelty. This work offers the candid perspective of the future great man of the 20th century from the distinctly 19th century battlefields where Churchill fought and wrote his way to early fame. Here is a chief architect of the Second World War involved in what has been called the last “genuine” cavalry charge of the British army.

The two massive volumes of the first edition are lavish and striking. The dark cloth bindings are decorated with gilt representations of the Mahdi's tomb on the spines and a gunboat on the front covers. The contents of each volume are printed on heavy paper with a profusion of illustrations, maps, and plans. From a collector's standpoint the edition is scarce; there were only 2,646 copies, and this number includes both 503 second and 140 third printings. Moreover, this is one of the few Churchill books for which there was no concurrent U.S. first edition.

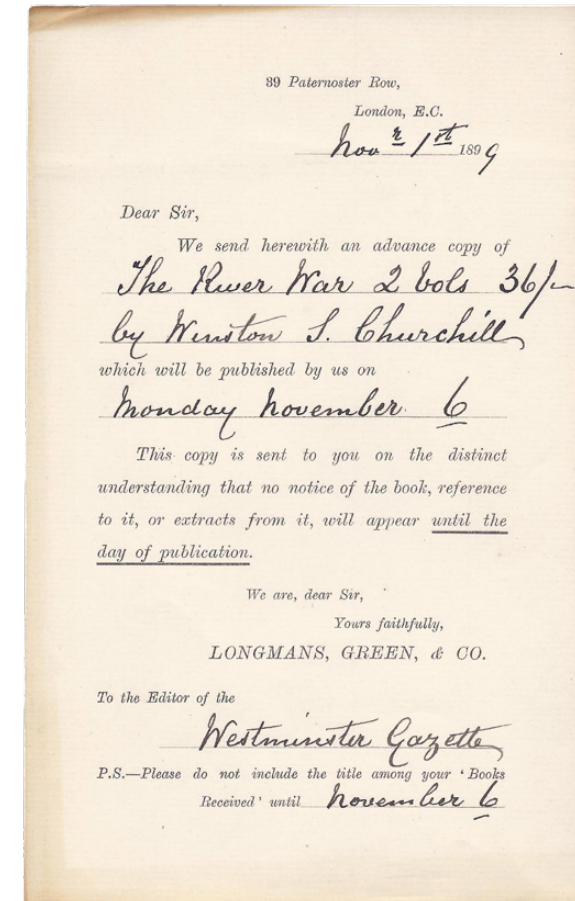
The text is not only arresting, insightful, powerfully descriptive, and of enduring relevance, but also elusive; after the first edition, there was not another unabridged edition until 2020. In 1902, Churchill (by then a new Member of Parliament and more mindful of political exigencies) revised and abridged his text, excising much criticism of Kitchener. All of the many subsequent editions, from 1902 until 2020, were based on the 1902 abridged text.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

2

The River War

Both the best-preserved and the only pre-publication publisher's advance review copy known to us
Longmans, Green, & Co., London, 1899

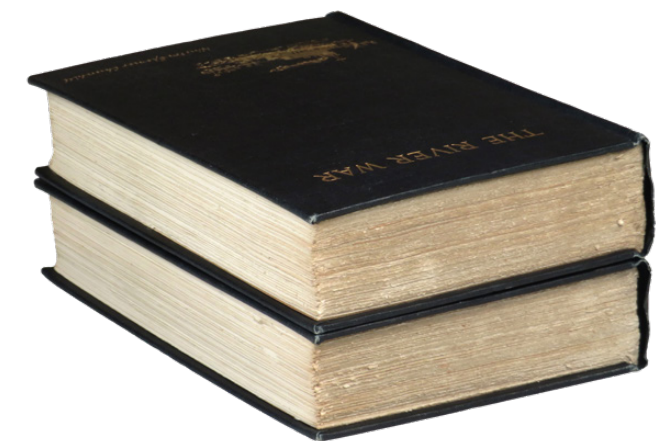
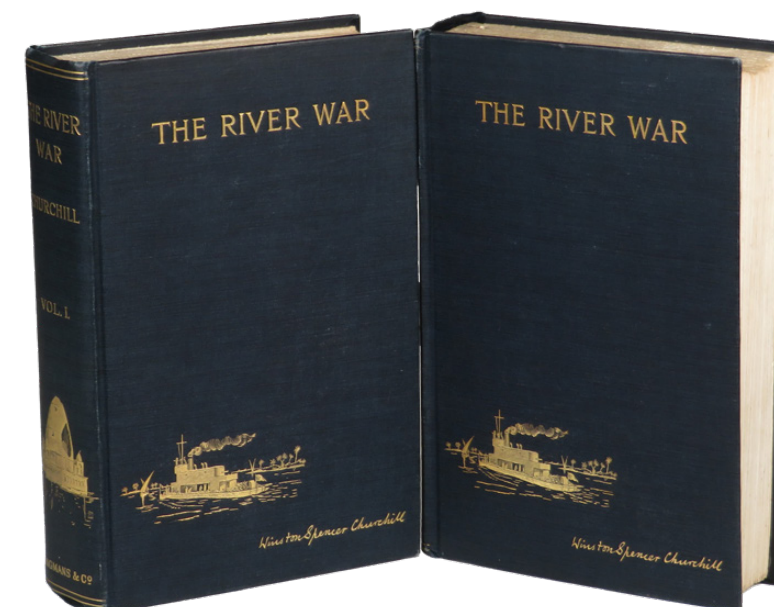


This magnificent set is the first edition, first printing, of Churchill's second published work, the lengthiest from his time as an itinerant cavalry officer and war correspondent during the waning days of Queen Victoria's reign. This extraordinary set may be unique. This is not only the best-preserved set of which we are aware, but is also, to our knowledge, the only surviving publisher's review set.

Laid into this set we found a magnificent pre-publication artifact. Printed and hand-written on an 8 x 5.125 inch (20.3 x 13 cm) slip of laid paper is the publisher's review slip presenting this “advance copy”. The review slip is hand-dated “Nov 1st” 1899 – five days prior to publication. The title, number of volumes, price, publication day and date, “Westminster Gazette” and embargo date are all written in the same hand. Printed at the center of the slip is the exhortation “This copy is sent to you on the distinct understanding that no notice of the book, reference to it, or extracts from it, will appear until the day of publication.”

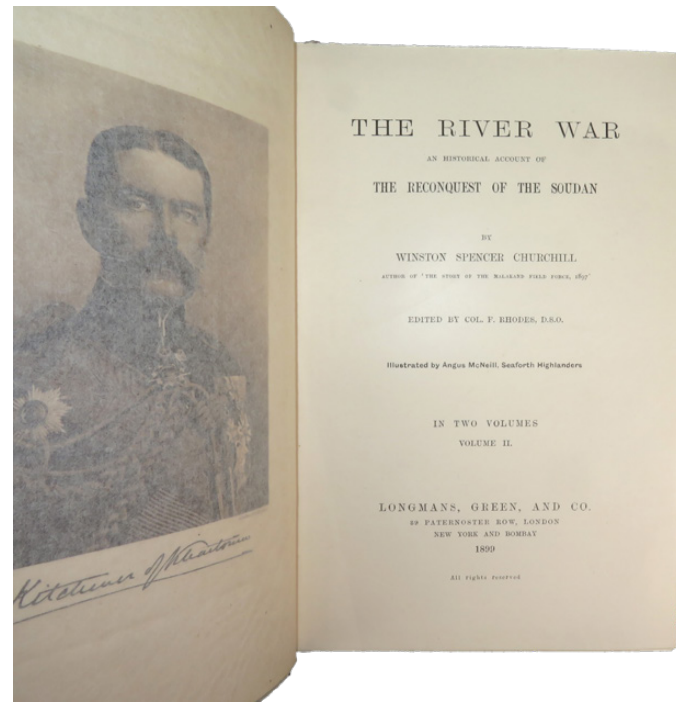
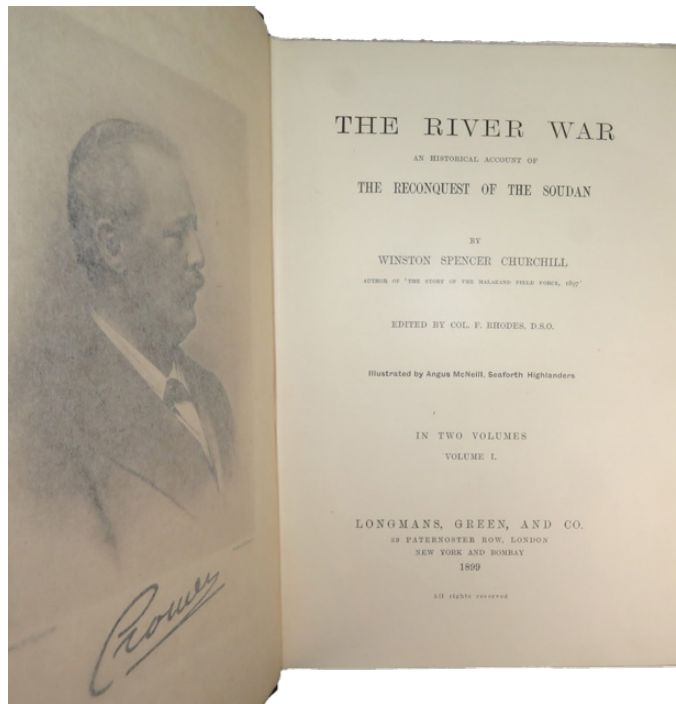
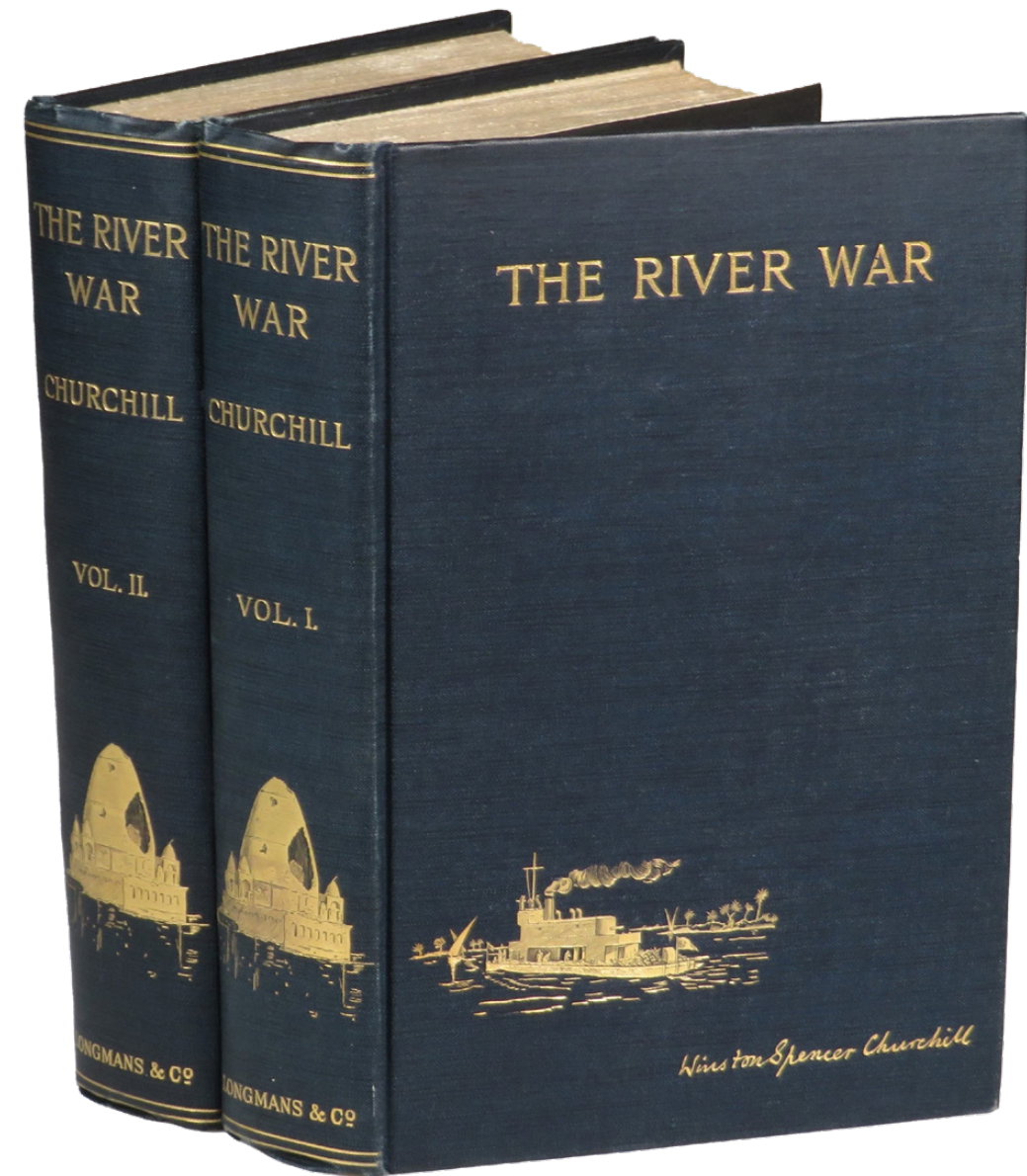
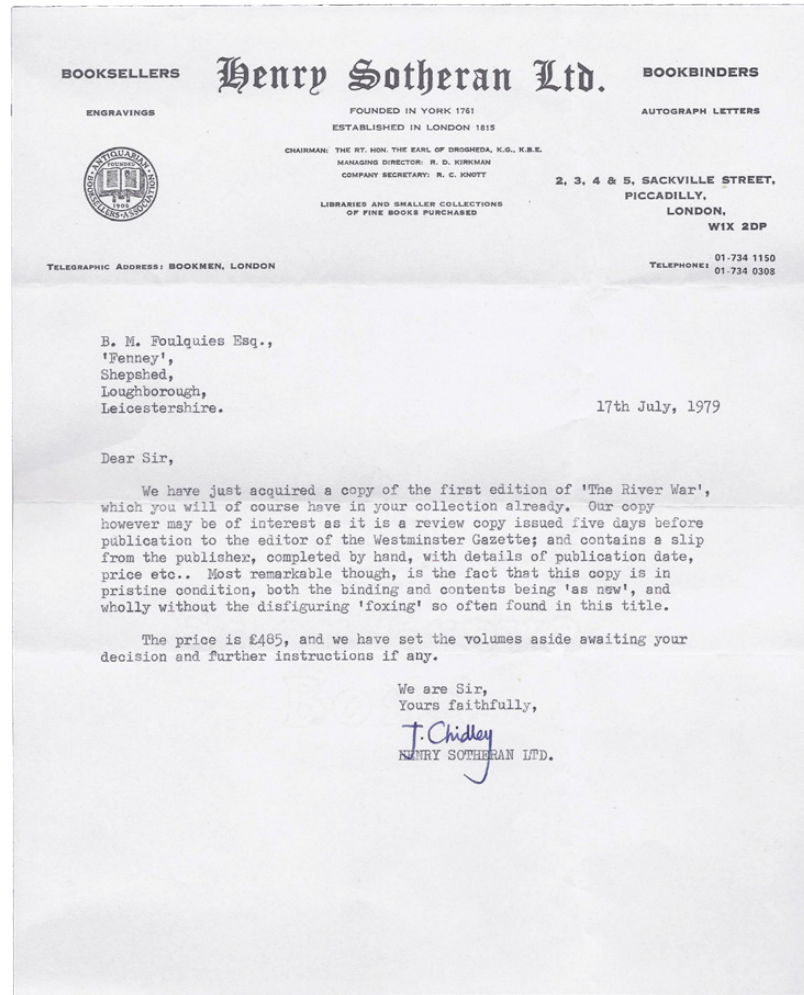
The publisher, Longmans, apparently achieved their purpose with this advance copy; publisher's advertisements bound in following the text in the first editions of Churchill's next three published books – *Savrola* (1900), *London to Ladysmith via Pretoria* (1900), and *Ian Hamilton's March* (1900) – all included a Westminster Gazette review blurb about *The River War*.

Irrespective of condition, this set would be noteworthy for “advance copy” status. But in addition to being the only surviving pre-publication publisher's advance copy of which we are aware, this set is also magnificent – unequivocally the best set we have ever seen, in improbably fine condition.



The first edition was not only compellingly written, but also physically beautiful. The two large, lavish volumes are decorated with gilt representations of the Mahdi's tomb on the spines and a gunboat on the front covers. Each volume is printed on heavy paper with a profusion of illustrations, maps, and plans. Unfortunately, all this magnificence came with vulnerabilities. The bindings are often both significantly worn and their massive text blocks either broken or loose. In addition to suffering gutter breaks and split endpapers, the contents are commonly spotted, often heavily, the untrimmed page edges grubby.

This set suffers none of the endemic defects. Not few – none. The bindings are not only square and tight, but immaculately clean and unfaded, with sharp corners, vividly bright gilt, deep, perfectly preserved navy hue. Shelf presentation is stunning. There is only the most trivial shelf wear and minor wrinkling to the spine ends. The contents are even better than the bindings, stunningly bright and entirely free of spotting. We find no previous ownership marks. The original black endpapers are present, as are all of the extensive maps and plans, as well as the frontispiece portraits and tissue guards. The untrimmed page edges are nearly as bright and clean as the contents. With no intention of impugning the *Westminster Gazette* reviewer, we observe that the books are so clean as to feel unread. If the signatures were not cut, we might presume that the books had never been opened.



Volume I of first edition, first printing sets often contains a publisher's catalogue bound in at the rear. Churchill's bibliographer, Ron Cohen, speculates that copies lacking the catalogue were likely "destined for sale in either the American or other overseas markets." We may reasonably infer that the publisher also omitted the catalogue from review sets; Volume I of this set lacks the catalogue.

Further provenance for the set is supplied by an accompanying 17 July 1979 letter on the stationery of Henry Sotheran Ltd. offering a customer this very set of *The River War*, remarking – as we do above – on its double magnificence as both a review copy and on its being in "pristine condition, both the binding and contents being 'as new'..." Founded in York in 1761 and established in London in 1815, Sotheran's is one of the world's oldest bookshops.

The set is housed in a single, full blue Morocco Goatskin Solander case with separate internal compartments for each volume.

Reference: Cohen A2.1.b, Woods/ICS A2(a.1), Langworth p.299 [CBC #002630]

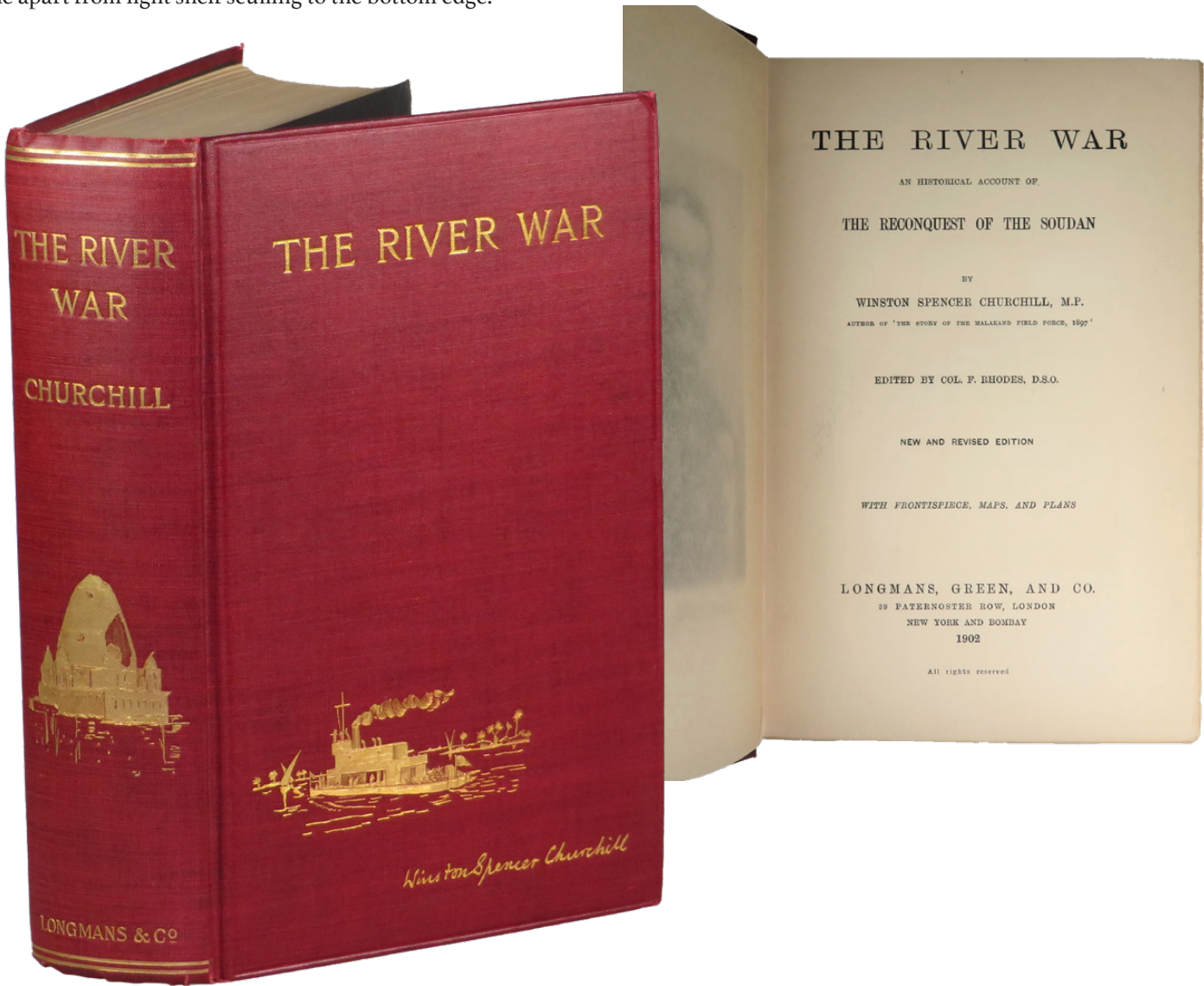
\$14,000 USD

3

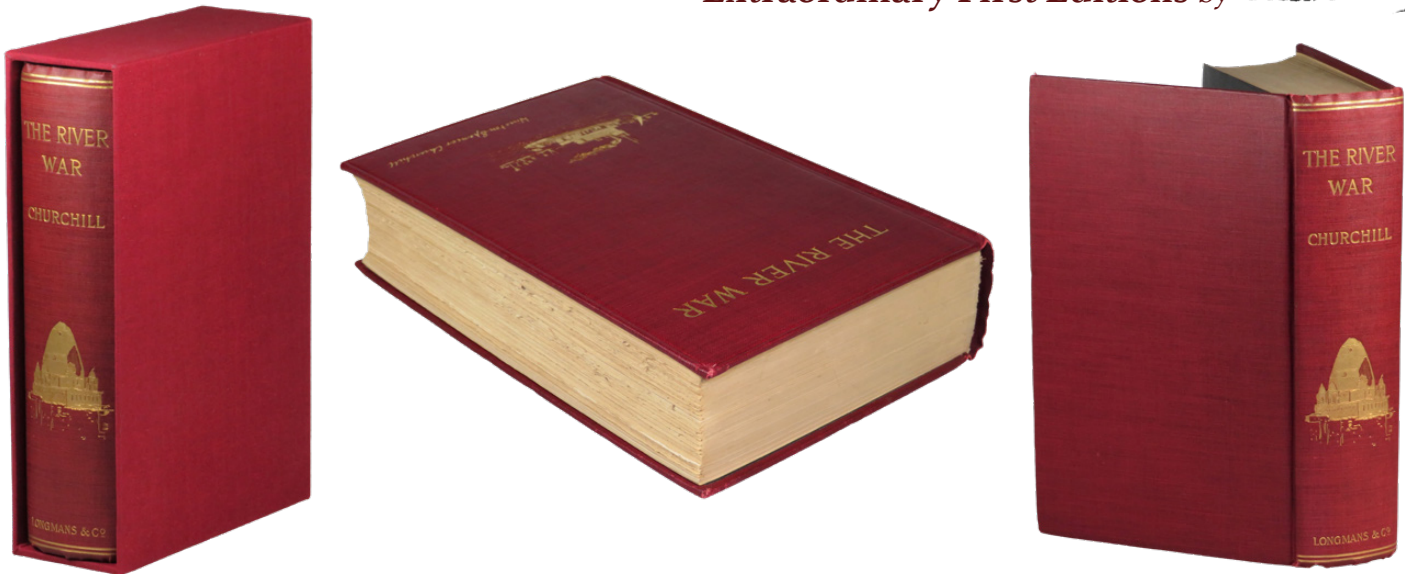
The River War Longmans, Green, & Co., London, 1902

This is the best example we have encountered of the first one-volume edition of Churchill's second book. *The River War* was originally published as a two-volume edition in 1899. In 1902, Churchill (by then a new member of Parliament) revised and abridged his text, excising much of the criticism of Kitchener for political reasons. There is also a new Preface.

This copy is not only the first binding state, but is also a truly magnificent example that we grade conservatively as near fine. The deep red cloth binding is improbably clean and bright with beautifully rich, deep red hue, and vivid gilt on the spine and front cover. Nearly all copies suffer some spine toning. In this case, shelf presentation is extraordinary; there is absolutely no color shift between the covers and the gorgeous, beautifully rounded spine. We note only a touch of wrinkling at the spine ends and a trivial hint of shelf wear at the corners. The contents are as impressive as the binding – notably bright with a crisp, unread feel. The black endpapers are intact, as are all of the extensive maps, plans, and illustrations, including the frontispiece portrait and tissue guard. We find no spotting. The untrimmed fore and bottom edges are spotless. The top edge is likewise notably clean, with only a hint of shelf dust. The sole previous ownership mark is a name – in pencil – on the blank recto preceding the half title. The binding is protected with a clear, removable, archival mylar cover and housed in a red cloth, felt-lined slipcase. The slipcase is fine apart from light shelf scuffing to the bottom edge.



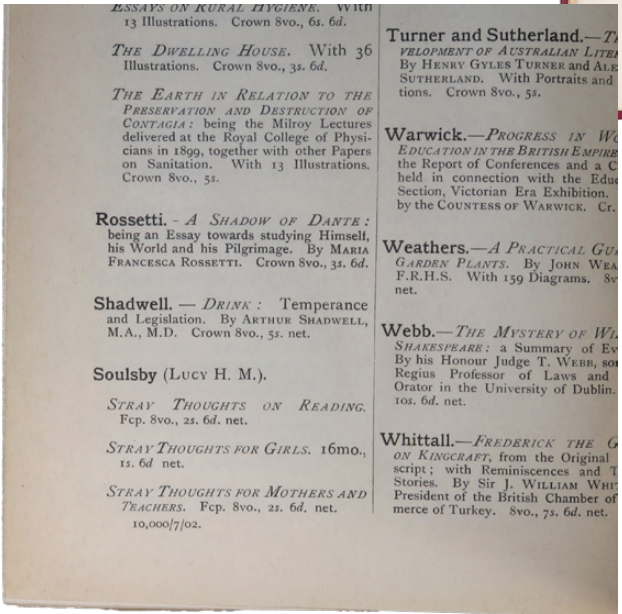
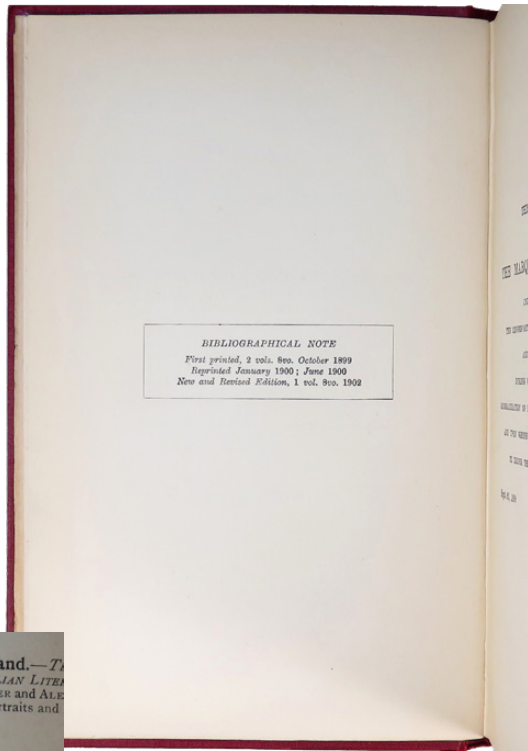
Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



This first one-volume edition had only a single printing of 1,003 copies and so is considerably scarcer than the first edition. This edition has the same distinctive gilt illustration of the Mahdi's Tomb and gunboat as the first edition, but is bound in red cloth. Though not explicitly noted by Churchill's bibliographer, Ron Cohen, we identify two distinct states of the binding – a dark red cloth binding with black endpapers and a publisher's catalogue designated "10,000/7/02" following the text. A second variant features a lighter hued red cloth, bound with white endpapers instead of black, and lacking the publisher's catalogue. Cohen (Vol. I, A2.2, p.46) notes "Sales were gradual" and "by 1 June 1908... 407 copies remained on hand" of which 350 were as-yet unbound sheets. In our experience, darker cloth has always corresponded to black endpapers and a bound-in publisher's catalogue. Given a number of factors, including the fact that the black endpapers are identical to those used in the 1899 first edition and the publisher's catalogue is dated 1902, the clear assumption is that the darker red cloth with black endpapers and publisher's catalogue denote the earlier binding state.

Reference: Cohen A2.2, Woods/ICS A2(b), Langworth p.30. [CBC #002850]

\$3,000 USD



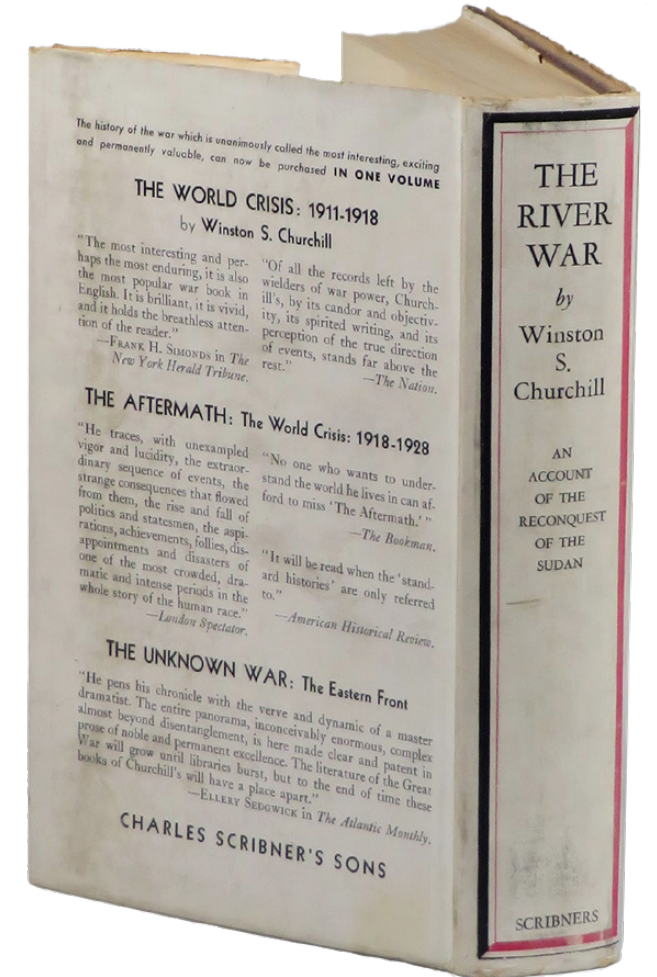
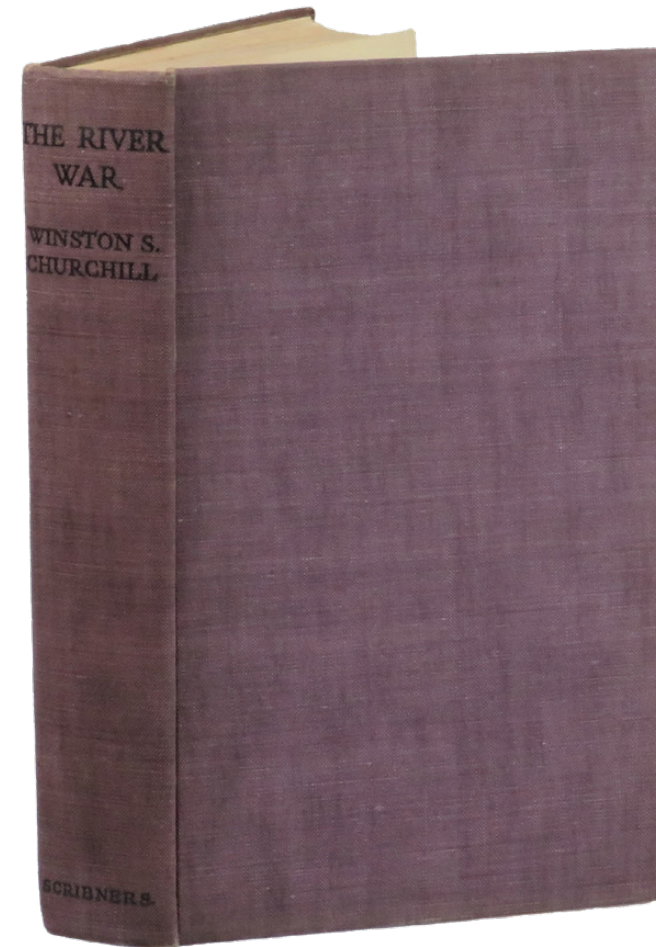
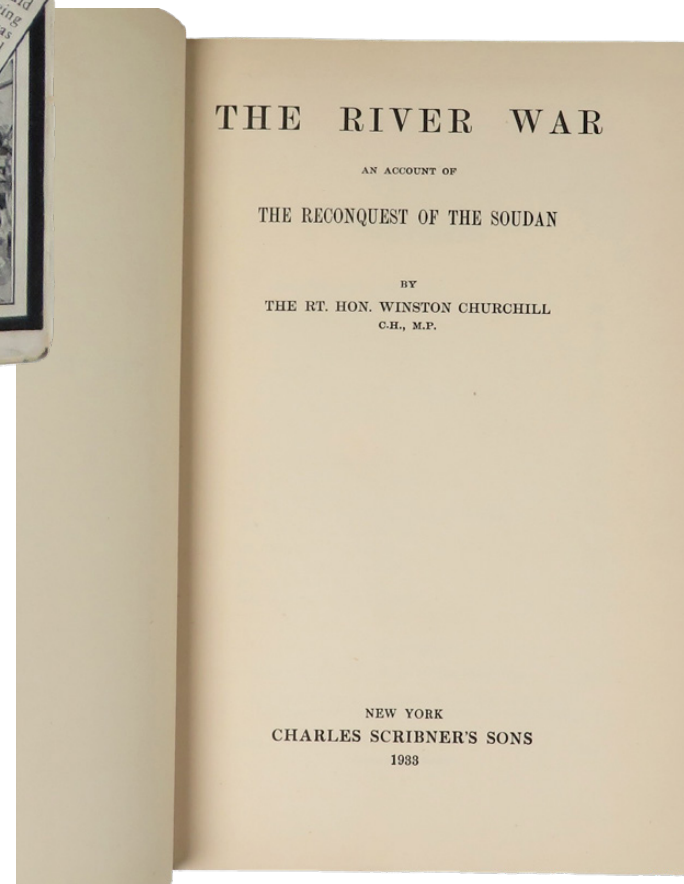
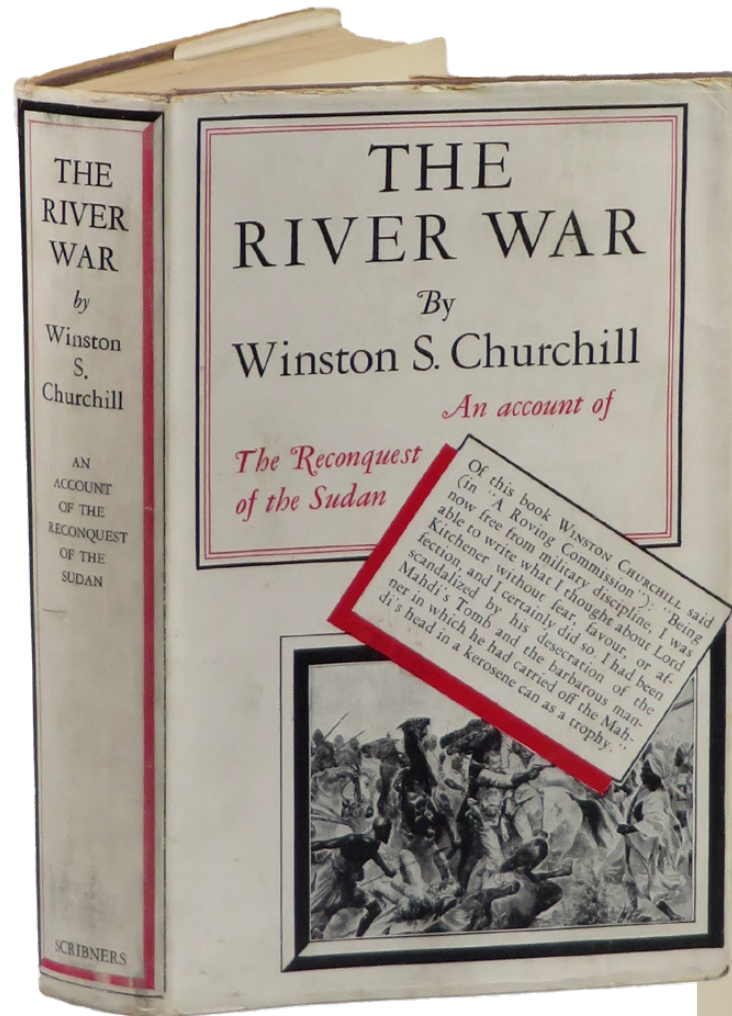
4

The River War

Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1933

This is a superior copy of the U.S. first edition of Churchill's second book in the striking original dust jacket.

First published in England in 1899, this was one of the few Churchill books that did not see a U.S. first edition concurrent with the British. In 1933, a new edition was issued in both England and, for the first time, in the U.S. with a bibliographically significant new introduction by the author explaining that "A generation has grown up which knows little of why we are in Egypt and the Sudan." This is one of just 1,040 U.S. first edition copies issued. Per Richard Langworth (p.35), the binding was probably done in England, using English sheets and a Scribner's title page cancel, as copies are bound in the identical lilac cloth as the Eyre & Spottiswoode edition of the same year. However, the striking dust jacket is unique to this U.S. first edition, printed in red and black, bearing R. C. Woodville's dramatic illustration of the Charge of the 21st Lancers.



This copy approaches truly fine in a near fine dust jacket. Two aspects of condition distinguish this jacket. First completeness. The jacket is unclipped, retaining the original \$2.75 front flap price, with only fractional loss confined to the flap fold corners. Second, the red spine print retains vivid color – quite a rarity among surviving copies of this jacket. These two factors more than compensate for modest overall soiling (virtually inevitable for the white dust jacket) and minor wear to extremities. The jacket is protected beneath a removable, clear, archival cover. The book beneath is more impressive still – the best example we have encountered. The lilac cloth binding is square, clean, and tight, the color suffering no toning or soiling, the corners sharp. Negligible shelf wear is confined to the bottom edges. The contents are immaculately clean with a crisp, unread feel. Some signatures remain uncut. We find no spotting, no soiling, no previous ownership marks, and precious little age-toning. Even the page edges are notably clean. Faint differential toning to the endpapers corresponds to the dust jacket flaps, affirming what the binding already testifies – that this extraordinary copy has spent life jacketed.

Reference: Cohen A2.5, Woods/ICS A2(db), Langworth p.35. [CBC #006827]

\$1,600 USD

5

Savrola

Longmans, Green, & Co., New York, 1900

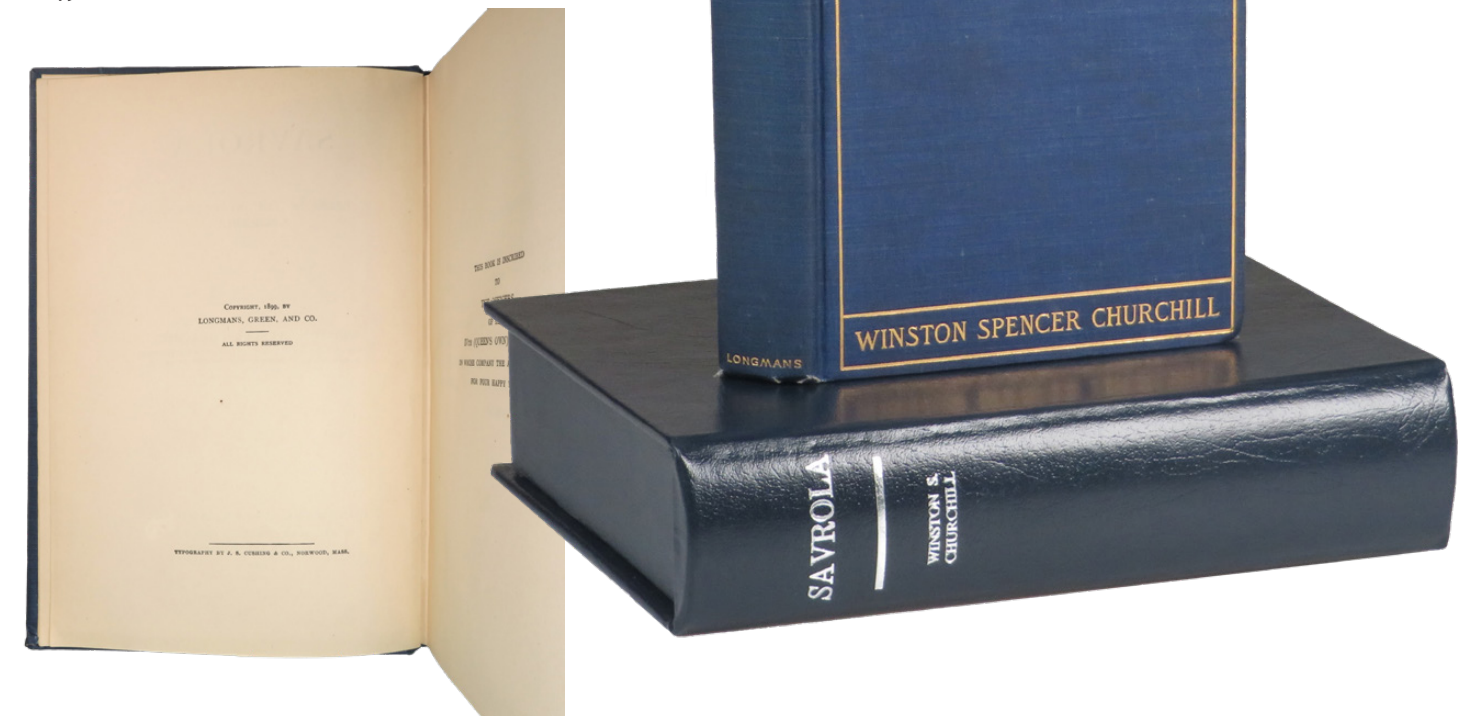
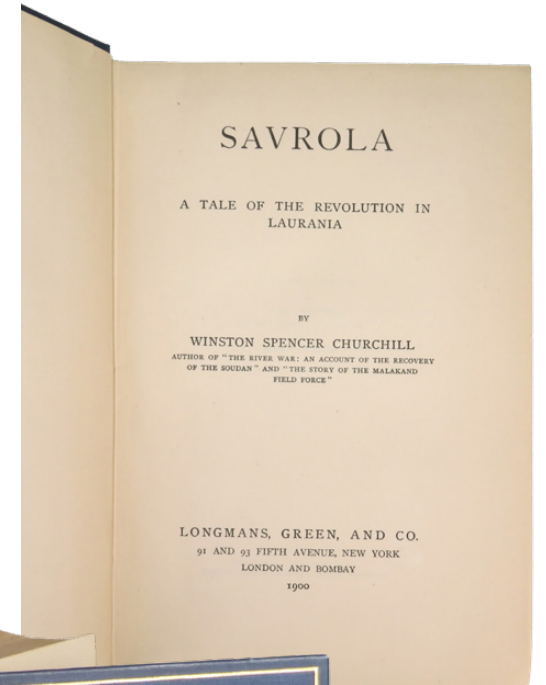
This is an extraordinary copy of the U.S. and true first edition of Churchill's third published book and only novel – unequivocally the best copy we have encountered.

Condition approaches truly fine. The publisher's blue cloth binding is immaculately clean, perfectly square, and pleasingly tight with sharp corners, bright gilt, and rich, unfaded navy hue. Trivial shelf wear is confined to the corners and spine ends. The contents are as impressive as the binding – beautifully bright and clean with no previous ownership marks and no spotting. The book is housed in a full navy Morocco goatskin solander with rounded spine.

Of note, this is one of the few Churchill books for which the U.S. edition is the true first edition. In fact, the British first edition was issued from American plates. There were two printings of the U.S. first edition, nearly identical in appearance and both issued in January 1900; this copy is the first printing, distinguished by absence of second printing notation on the copyright page. The British first edition was not issued until February 1900.

Reference: Cohen A3.1.a, Woods/ICS A3(a.1), Langworth p.39. [CBC #007218]

\$2,750 USD



Savrola

Published in 1900, *Savrola* is Churchill's third book and only novel. His "*Tale of the Revolution in Laurania*" is a melodramatic tale of political intrigue in a fictional Mediterranean state. A very young Churchill was exuberant about the book while writing and editing. Even though *Savrola* was his third published book, it was actually the first book he undertook and the second he completed. Churchill's dramatic tale of a democratic revolution in a fictional European state revolves around the titular hero.

Churchill would later make deprecating comments about his novel and it is perhaps instructive that he never wrote another. In his 1930 autobiography, he wrote, "I have consistently urged my friends to abstain from reading [*Savrola*]." However, his mixed feelings about his only novel did not keep Churchill from writing a foreword to a new edition in 1956: "The preface to the first edition in 1900 submitted the book 'with considerable trepidation to the judgment or the clemency of the public.' The intervening fifty-five years have somewhat dulled though certainly not changed my sentiments on this point."

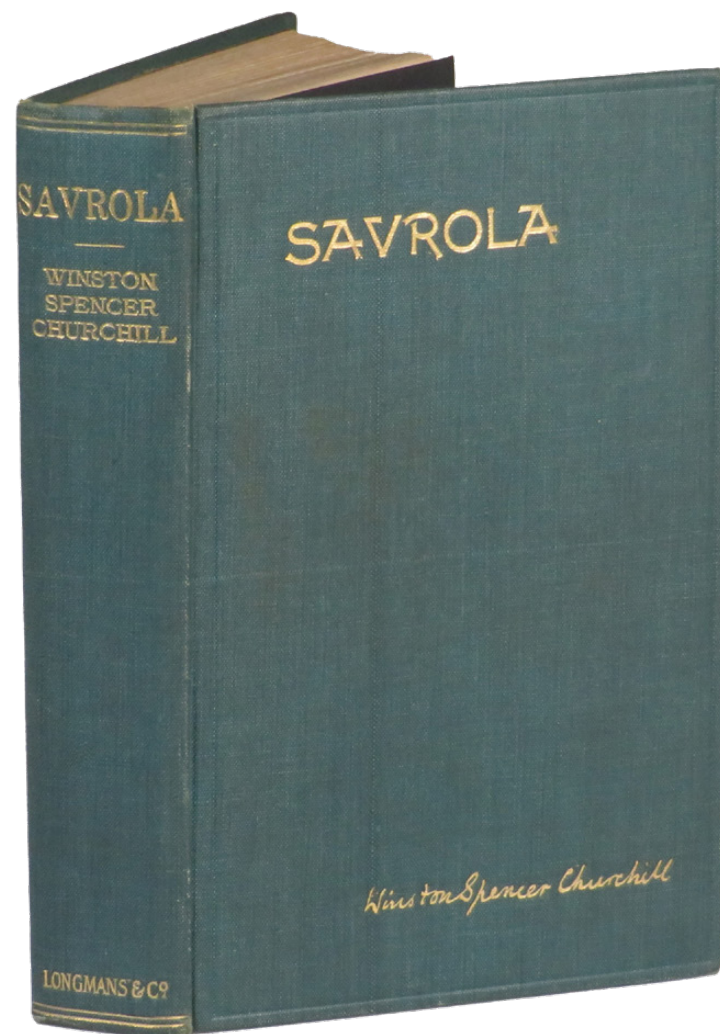
It has been argued that, as a literary effort, *Savrola* gave "dramatic voice to Churchill's mature philosophical reflections about his fundamental political and ethical principles at the very moment when he settled on them for the rest of his life." (Powers, *Finest Hour* #74) Irrespective of Churchill's feelings about his book or the literary merit thereof, the novel certainly provides an interesting insight into the early political perspective and sentiment of the then very young Churchill.

This is one of the few Churchill books for which the U.S. first edition precedes the British, which was issued from American plates. The U.S. edition is bound in blue cloth with gilt spine print and gilt rules and print on the front cover. The British first edition was bound quite differently from its U.S. counterpart in green cloth with Churchill's facsimile signature in gilt on the front cover. The British first edition proved less durable than its U.S. counterpart, and is most often seen significantly worn and spotted. Both the U.S. and British first editions had subsequent printings, and the British first printing had two states, the second state distinguished by a title page cancellans with a blank verso.

6

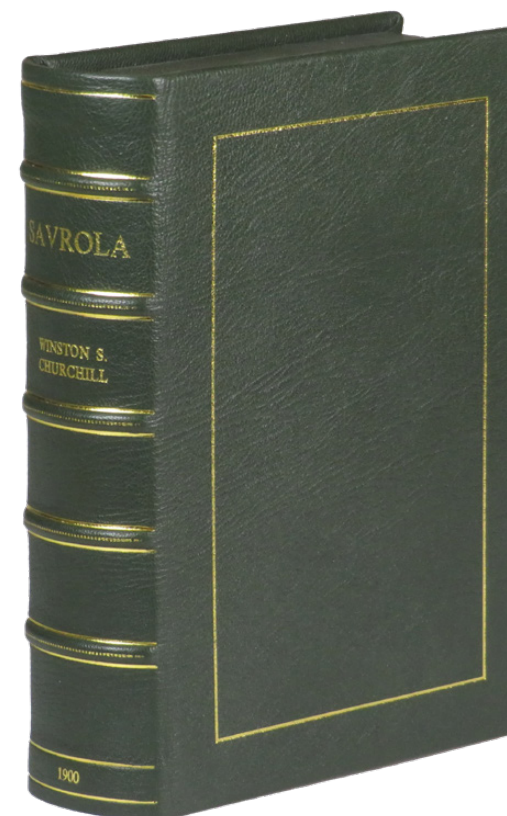
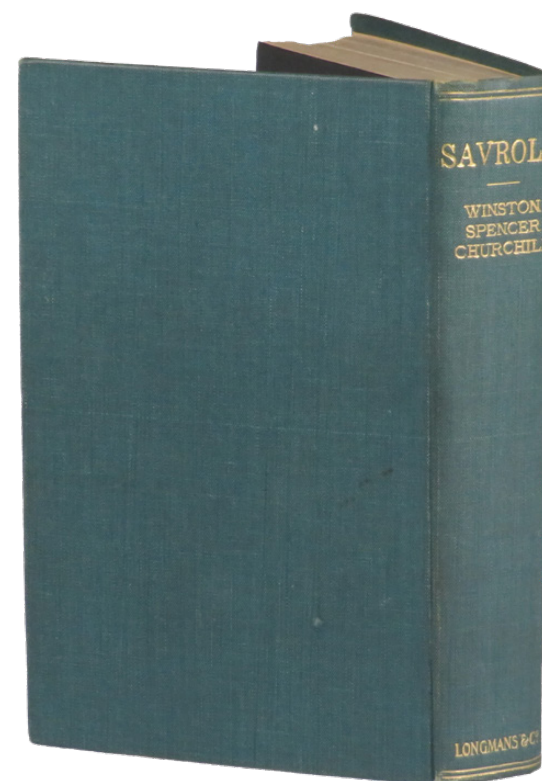
Savrola

Longmans, Green, and Co., London, 1900



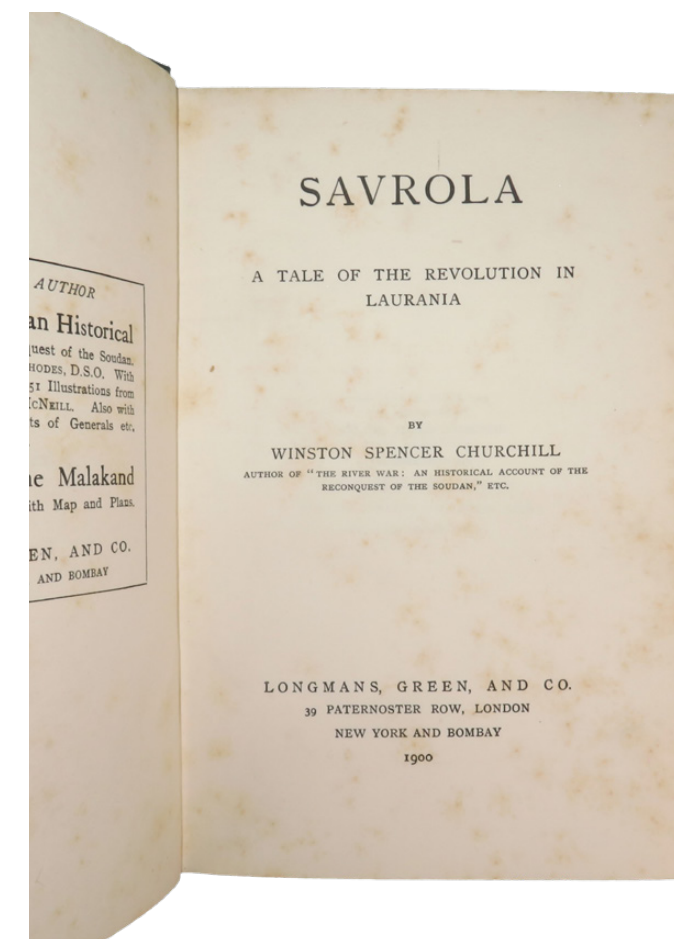
This is a beautifully preserved copy of the British first edition, first printing, first state of Churchill's third book and only novel. This is the best copy we have offered of this notoriously fragile first edition.

The British first edition was issued from American plates, with only 1,500 copies of the first printing published on 12 February 1900. It is bound quite differently from its U.S. counterpart, in green cloth with Churchill's facsimile signature in gilt on the front cover. The British first edition proved less durable than its U.S. counterpart, and is most often seen with a significantly worn and cocked binding and spotted contents.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

This copy approaches near fine, particularly impressive given the inherent fragility of the edition and the significantly flawed condition of most surviving copies. There are two states of the first printing, the second state distinguished by a title page cancellans with a blank verso. This copy confirms first state with an integral title page with the print history on the title page verso. The binding remains notably clean and square – a rarity, since nearly every copy we encounter has a forward lean. We note no toning or soiling of the green cloth and vivid gilt on both front cover and spine. Spine presentation is as good as we ever see. The corners remain sharp. Trivial shelf wear to extremities and an tiny, unobtrusive dark mark to the blank rear cover are the only reportable flaws. The contents are nearly as impressive as the excellent binding, bright with a distinctly crisp feel. The original black endpapers are intact. We find no previous ownership marks. The only interior flaw is spotting, mild for the edition, substantially confined to the page edges and the first and final few leaves with occasional intrusions into the blank margins of the main text.



The book is housed in a full green Morocco goatskin Solander with rounded, hubbed spine, the spine bands gilt rule framed and gilt decorated, the covers with gilt rule border, the interior lined with green velvet. The Solander is in as-new condition, with no wear, soiling, blemishes, or fading.

Reference: Cohen A3.2.a, Woods/ICS A3(ba.1), Langworth p.41. [CBC #003146]

\$2,750 USD

7

London to Ladysmith via Pretoria

Inscribed and dated by Churchill on 12 August 1900, during his first successful campaign for Parliament, just 23 days after Churchill's return from South Africa, and accompanied by a typed, hand-emended, and signed presentation letter from Churchill specifically explaining the gift of the book

Longmans, Green, & Co., London, 1900

On 12 August 1900, during his first successful campaign for Parliament, Winston Churchill inscribed and dated this remarkable presentation copy of the first edition, first printing to the recipient. It was a highly relevant gift. First, the book – Churchill's fourth – recounts the daring, dramatic escape that made Churchill a war hero and propelled his first election victory a month and a half after he inscribed this copy. Second, it was gifted in thanks for the recipient's help on a Sunday with the young candidate's overwhelming accumulation of correspondence. This inscribed presentation copy is accompanied by a typed, signed presentation letter from Churchill specifically explaining the gift of this book.

Winston Churchill's political career would last two thirds of a century, see him occupy Cabinet office during each of the first six decades of the twentieth century, carry him twice to the premiership and, further still, into the annals of history as a preeminent statesman and icon of resolute leadership. But when then-25-year-old Winston Churchill inscribed this book, his only career was that of an itinerant cavalry officer and war correspondent, laboring to win his first seat in Parliament and, as this book testifies, making sure to thank those who aided his as-yet-unrealized ambition.

Signed, first edition copies of Churchill's early works are quite scarce. A copy thus – inscribed, dated, contemporary, to a known recipient, and with definitive provenance – is a compellingly rare prize.

To John Mansfield Esq.
from
Winston. Churchill
August 12th 1900

The inscription and letter

Churchill inscribed this book in four lines on the half-title recto: "To John Mansfield Esq. | from | Winston S. Churchill | August 12th 1900"

The accompanying hand-emended and signed presentation letter is typed on a single sheet of laid, watermarked paper measuring 8 x 10 inches and printed with Churchill's mother's address, "35 A, GREAT CUMBERLAND PLACE, | W." The typed date is "August 14th, 1900. In three paragraphs, the letter reads:

"Dear Mr. Mansfield,

The Letters are all right. It is very kind of you to have taken so much trouble to have written them for me.

I don't know what I should have done if the accumulation had run on for two or three more days.

I fear I was the thoughtless cause of spoiling your fine Sunday. Will you accept, as a small recognition of the assistance you have been to me, a copy of my book about the Boer War, which I forward with this letter?"

The word "for" in the second paragraph, as well as the question mark at the end of the third paragraph, are both hand-emended.

The valediction and signature are likewise in Churchill's hand: "Yours vry truly | Winston S. Churchill"

35, GREAT CUMBERLAND PLACE,
W.
August 14th, 1900.
Dear Mr. Mansfield,
The letters are all right. It is very kind of you to have taken so much trouble to have written them for me.
I don't know what I should have done if the accumulation had run on two or three more days.
I fear I was the thoughtless cause of spoiling your fine Sunday. Will you accept, as a small recognition of the assistance you have been to me, a copy of my book about the Boer War, which I forward with this letter?
Yours vry truly
Winston. Churchill
John H. Mansfield, Esq:

London to Ladysmith via Pretoria

London to Ladysmith via Pretoria is the first of Churchill's two books based on his newspaper despatches sent from the front in South Africa. In October 1899, the second Boer War erupted between the descendants of Dutch settlers in South Africa and the British. Churchill, an adventure-seeking young cavalry officer and war correspondent, swiftly found himself in South Africa with the 21st Lancers and an assignment as press correspondent to the *Morning Post*. Not long thereafter, on 15 November 1899, Churchill was captured during a Boer ambush of an armored train. His daring escape less than a month later made him a celebrity and helped launch his political career.

London to Ladysmith via Pretoria contains 27 letters and telegrams to the *Morning Post* written between 26 October 1899 and 10 March 1900. It was published in England on 16 May 1900 and sold well. Churchill returned from South Africa in July 1900 and spent the summer campaigning hard in Oldham. Churchill had lost the Oldham by-election – his first attempt at Parliament – in July 1899. Since then, as Arthur Balfour (who became Prime Minister in 1902) put it in a 30 August 1900 letter, the young Churchill had had "fresh opportunities - admirably taken advantage of – for shewing the public of what stuff you are made." Indeed; Churchill won his first seat in Parliament on 1 October 1900 in the so-called "khaki election".

The text is arresting and notable for being published swiftly without significant alteration of the original dispatches and before history could enfold either the events related or the author's perspective. Interestingly, it was published so swiftly that Churchill could not reveal many details about the methods and people involved in his escape.

The British first edition is striking, bound in tan cloth with an illustration of an armoured train on the front cover accompanied by the author's facsimile signature and with the Union flag and Transvaal flag in gilt on the spine beneath a red subtitle. The binding is visually arresting, but the first edition proved notoriously fragile and prone to wear, soiling, and spotting. Truly fine copies are virtually a chimera.

Published in June 1900, the U.S. first edition is both less numerous and less glamorous than its British counterpart. There was just a single printing, with no more than an estimated 1,850 copies sold. The American edition is bound in pebble grain red buckram which proved durable yet susceptible to blotchy wear and discoloration, particularly on the spine.

The moment

Churchill inscribed this book 23 days after he returned from the Boer War in South Africa and 50 days before his first election to Parliament.

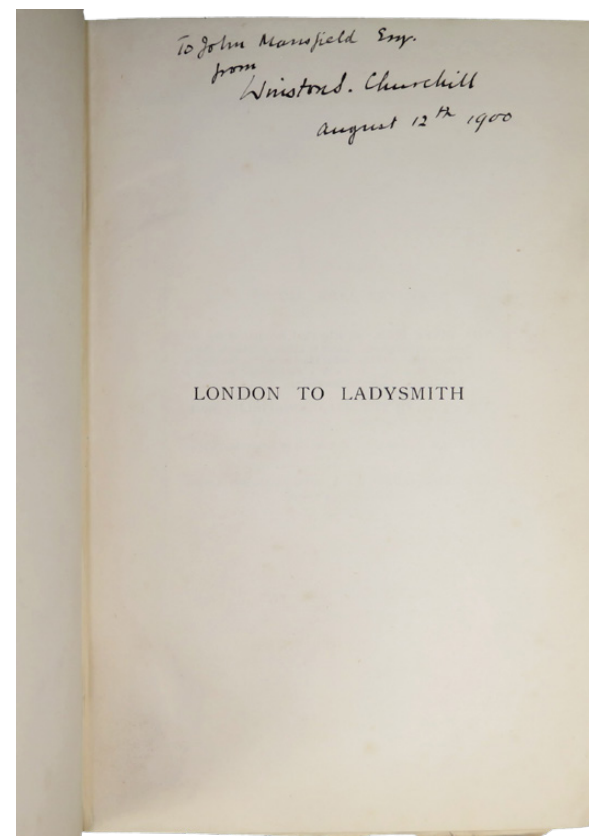
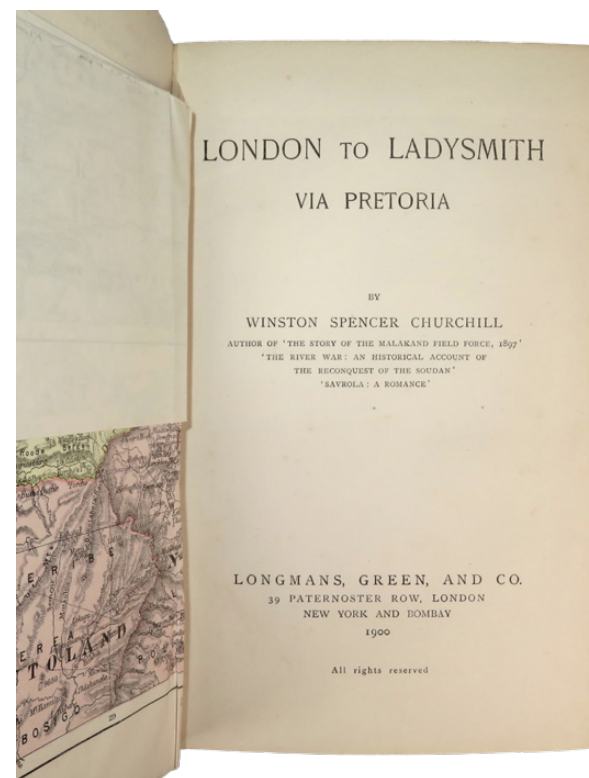
Churchill was campaigning the day he inscribed this copy of *London to Ladysmith via Pretoria*. The same day – 12 August 1900 – Churchill wrote to his mother “I must concentrate all of my efforts upon Oldham. I’m going to have a thorough campaign from the 20th to the 23rd of this month, speaking at 2 or 3 meetings every night...” Electioneering apparently lasted longer than Churchill planned; on 27 August the Prince of Wales wrote to Churchill “...You are I suppose busy electioneering...”

Nearly all of the accomplishments that made Churchill an indelible part of history lay ahead of him when he inscribed this book. His experience in South Africa was a critical catalyst in his transformation from itinerant, adventure-seeking young cavalry officer and war correspondent into an enduring fixture in British political life.

In October 1899, the second Boer War erupted between the descendants of Dutch settlers in South Africa and the British. Churchill swiftly found himself in South Africa with the 21st Lancers and an assignment as press correspondent to the *Morning Post*. Not long thereafter, on 15 November 1899, Churchill was captured during a Boer ambush of an armored train. A month later Churchill made a daring and improbable escape, making his way to Durban via Portuguese East Africa with the Boers literally offering reward for his capture “dead or alive”. Churchill’s intrepid ordeal made him a celebrity.

Earlier that year, in July 1899, Churchill stood as a Conservative at the Oldham by-election – and was defeated in his first attempt at Parliament. His Boer War experience and celebrity changed his prospects. As Arthur Balfour (who became Prime Minister in 1902) put it in a 30 August 1900 letter, the young Churchill had had “fresh opportunities - admirably taken advantage of – for shewing the public of what stuff you are made.” These “fresh opportunities” brought Churchill victory in the so-called “khaki election” of October 1900.

It compels the imagination to think of this book being signed by the young Churchill while he was campaigning for this first seat in Parliament. All British politics yet knew of Churchill was the failings of his father and the young Winston’s embryonic ambition. Churchill had proven himself in battle and in print, but not on the hustings. The parliamentary career that began 50 days after he inscribed this book would span the Boer War to the Cold War, with two world wars in between, and see the world of imperial cavalry charges recounted in his early books almost inconceivably yield to the world of new global superpowers and nuclear weapons.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

The recipient and Churchill’s stay at Howick Hall

Churchill sent this inscribed book and accompanying letter to John Henry Mansfield (1865-1932), the estate agent for Howick Hall, home of Churchill’s host, Earl Grey. The letter indicates Churchill’s thanks for Mansfield’s help with a daunting “accumulation” of correspondence by writing letters for Churchill on a “fine Sunday”. (Sunday, 12 August 1900 – the date of the book’s inscription)

Mansfield was presumably suited to the task, both professionally and by inclination. In the years following Churchill’s visit to Howick Hall, Mansfield became an active member of the Royal Colonial Institute and secretary of the Alnwick local committee. Churchill would speak to the Royal Colonial Institute in London several times in his career, including serving as Chairman of the 5th Ordinary General Meeting of the Institute in a 1908 debate about East Africa. Mansfield went on to serve as chairman of the Alnwick council (where one of his duties was notifying the community when one of their own was killed in battle) and serving on the Alnwick tribunals for conscientious objectors during the First World War, to determine whether a person was legitimately objecting under military guidelines.

In writing to his mother from Howick Hall on 12 August 1900, Churchill indicated some of the pressures he was facing in the run up to the Oldham election. “I have an enormous number of invitations to speak for people about the country but have had, steadily, to refuse them, with the exception of Plymouth on the 17th of this month and Staly Bridge on the 28th of September.” The letters conveying these refusals were likely part of the work with which Mansfield assisted.

Churchill’s stay at Howick Hall was brief, but evidently both productive and perhaps even a mild respite. He described his visit to Earl Grey’s ancestral home thus: “Then I came on here, travelling all night, a very uncomfortable journey across country; and yesterday we had a meeting in the runs of Warkworth Castle, which, altho it was not a very important affair, went off very well.” The Warkworth Castle event was the August 11th annual fête for the Conservative and Unionist Associations of Newcastle-on-Tyne where Churchill spoke. Churchill continued: “I am speaking at Oldham Monday night & travel thither from here tomorrow morning early. After some days of wet and cold the sun is shining very brightly, and this pretty place with its beautiful flower garden is very pleasant to live in.”

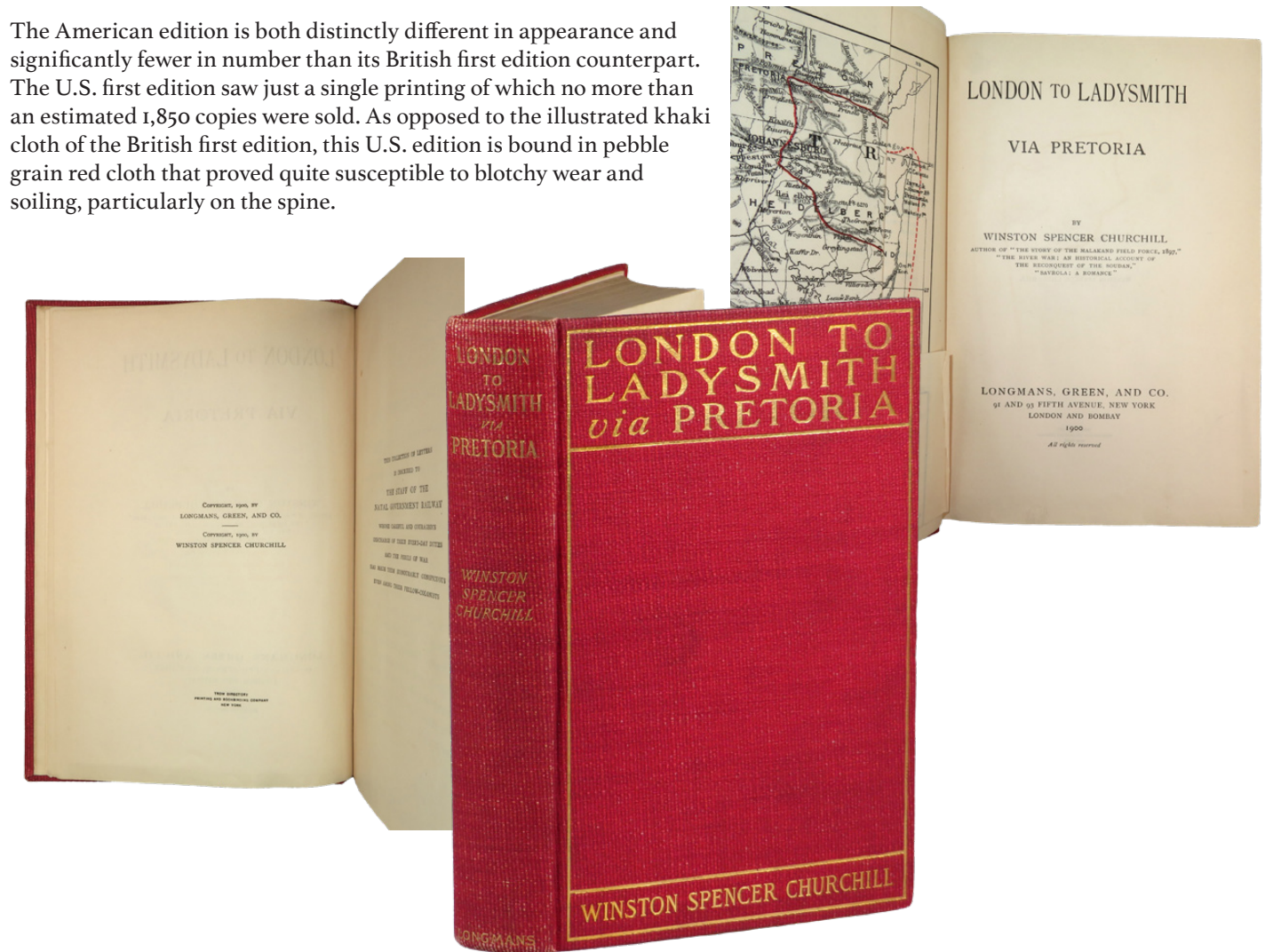
Albert Henry George Grey, 4th Early Grey (1851-1917), Churchill’s host at Howick, was also heavily involved with the Royal Colonial Institute, serving as one of several vice presidents at the time Mansfield became a member, and later as its president. He was both a British nobleman and a politician, who served as a Liberal MP in the 1880s and took his place in the House of Lords in 1894, when he inherited the Earldom. Grey was one of the founders of the Imperial Federation League, which sought to transform the British Empire into an Imperial Federation. Grey became Governor General of Canada in 1904, serving until 1911.

8

London to Ladysmith via Pretoria Longmans, Green, & Co., New York, 1900

This is an exceptional copy of the U.S. first edition of Churchill's fourth published book, the best-preserved copy we have encountered. *London to Ladysmith via Pretoria* is the first of Churchill's two books based on his newspaper despatches sent from the front in South Africa.

The American edition is both distinctly different in appearance and significantly fewer in number than its British first edition counterpart. The U.S. first edition saw just a single printing of which no more than an estimated 1,850 copies were sold. As opposed to the illustrated khaki cloth of the British first edition, this U.S. edition is bound in pebble grain red cloth that proved quite susceptible to blotchy wear and soiling, particularly on the spine.



Condition

This inscribed presentation copy approaches very good condition. The binding is square and tight, lightly soiled, though only appreciably on the blank rear cover, and the spine is not toned, with both the gilt and red subtitle distinct. The binding shows light wear to extremities, some fraying along the front joint, and a little wrinkling to the spine cloth. The contents are particularly bright and clean for the edition and retain a crisp feel. We find no previous ownership marks other than the author's inscription. Especially impressive for the edition, there is no spotting. The original black endpapers are intact with no sign of cracking at the gutters. All maps and plans are present, including the folding maps at the title page and p.366. The rear catalogue is dated "10/99" (rather than "7/00"), indicating this is one of the earlier bound copies.

The book is housed in a full red Morocco goatskin Solander case featuring a rounded, hubbed spine, the spine bands gilt rule framed and gilt decorated, the covers with gilt rule borders, the interior lined with red velvet. Condition of the case is as-new, with no reportable wear, soiling, blemishes, or fading.

The typed, hand-emended, and signed letter from Churchill is complete, with no loss or tears, despite significant soiling and staining, particularly to the upper and right edges. The letter has three horizontal creases and one vertical crease, ostensibly from original posting.

The letter is housed in a clear, removable, archival sleeve within a rigid, crimson cloth folder.

While the letter and book together provide self-evident provenance, we can also share that the book and letter were sold by the great grandchild of the recipient, John Mansfield.

Reference: Cohen A4.1.a, Woods/ICS A4(a.1), Langworth p.53. [CBC #005524]

\$25,000 USD

This is a remarkably bright and clean copy, approaching near fine condition, almost a chimera thus. The binding is square, clean, and tight with sharp corners, vivid spine and front cover gilt, and striking, unfaded red hue on both the covers and spine. We note only mild, superficial scuffing. The contents are notably bright with no previous ownership marks and no spotting. All maps and plans are intact, including the folding maps, which remain properly folded. The top edge gilt is bright. We note only a strip of browning along the lower edge of the front pastedown, possibly transfer from the pastedown glue, and a few faint, tiny instances of soiling to the otherwise bright fore and bottom edges.

Reference: Cohen A4.2, Woods/ICS A4(b), Langworth p.55. [CBC #007219]

\$1,000 USD

9

Ian Hamilton's March

Longmans, Green, & Co., London, 1900

Ian Hamilton's March

Ian Hamilton's March was the second of Churchill's two books based on his newspaper despatches sent from the front in South Africa. In October 1899, the second Boer War erupted between the descendants of Dutch settlers in South Africa and the British. Churchill, an adventure-seeking young cavalry officer and war correspondent, swiftly found himself in South Africa with the 21st Lancers and an assignment as press correspondent to the *Morning Post*. Not long thereafter, on 15 November 1899, Churchill was captured during a Boer ambush of an armored train. His daring escape less than a month later made him a celebrity and helped launch his political career.

Churchill's first book of Boer War despatches, *London to Ladysmith via Pretoria*, was published in England in mid-May 1900 and sold well. *Ian Hamilton's March* completes Churchill's coverage of the Boer War, publishing 17 letters to the *Morning Post*, spanning 31 March through 14 June 1900. The narrative in *Ian Hamilton's March* includes the liberation of the Pretoria prison camp where Churchill had been held.

Though a companion and sequel to *London to Ladysmith*, the British first edition is notably different in appearance, content, and scarcity. The first printing saw only 5,000 copies - half as many copies as *London to Ladysmith*. Where *Ladysmith* bore a lavishly illustrated binding, *Ian Hamilton's March* was bound in red cloth matching the style of Churchill's first published book, *The Story of the Malakand Field Force* - fitting, as these were the first and last Churchill first editions published by Longmans, Green, and Co.

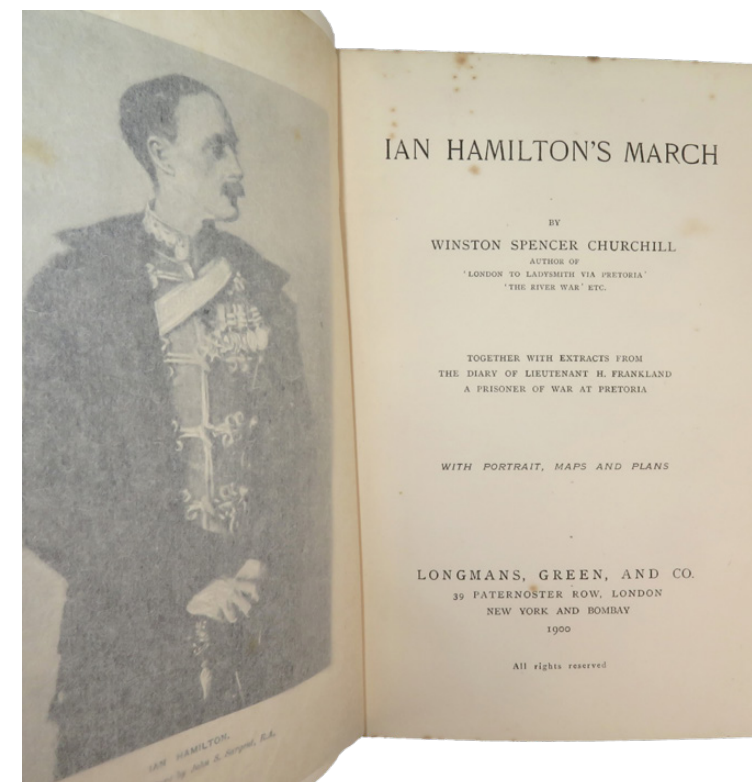
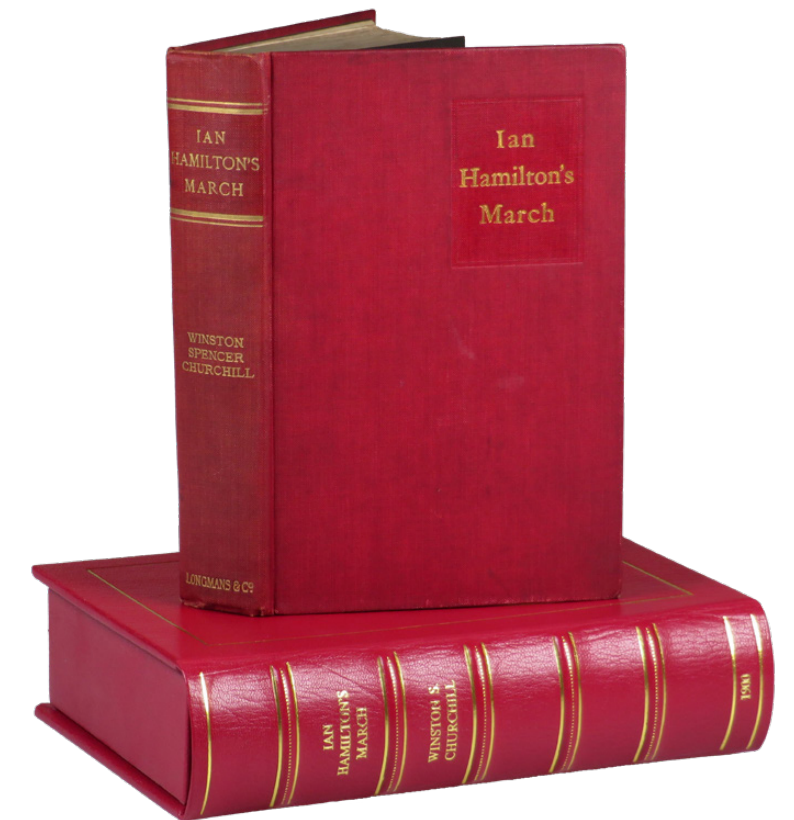
While *London to Ladysmith via Pretoria* had swiftly published Churchill's despatches in the wake of his capture and escape, for *Ian Hamilton's March* "the texts of the originally published letters were more extensively revised and four letters were included which had never appeared in periodical form" (Cohen, A8.1.a, Vol. I, p.104). Churchill effected these revisions while on board the passenger and cargo steamer *Dunottar Castle*, which was requisitioned as a troop ship, en route home to England.

Churchill arrived home on 20 July 1900, and spent the summer campaigning hard in Oldham, capitalizing on his war status and winning his first seat in Parliament on 1 October 1900, in the so-called "khaki election." The British first edition of *Ian Hamilton's March* was published just a few weeks later, its U.S. counterpart on 26 November 1900.

The narrative in *Ian Hamilton's March* includes the liberation of the Pretoria prison camp where Churchill had been held and from which he had famously escaped. The title takes its name from General Sir Ian Hamilton's campaign from Bloemfontein to Johannesburg and Pretoria. Churchill would maintain a life-long friendship with Hamilton, who would be involved in the Gallipoli landings and to whom Churchill would sell his first country home.

This is an exceptionally bright and tight example of the British first edition, first printing, first issue of Churchill's fifth published book. *Ian Hamilton's March* is the second of Churchill's two books based on his newspaper despatches sent from the front in South Africa during the Boer War.

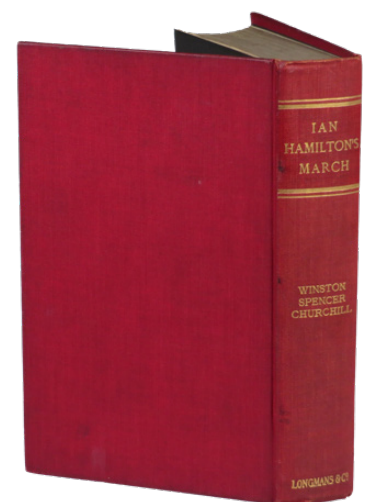
Condition of this copy is better than very good. The red cloth binding is square and tight with sharp corners. Most impressively for the edition, the spine retains rich, unfaded red hue, with no discernible color shift between the covers and spine. We note light shelf wear to extremities, wrinkling at the spine ends, and minimal soiling. The contents are unusually bright with a pleasingly crisp, unread feel. The original black endpapers, frontispiece, tissue guard, and all maps and plans remain intact. We find no previous owner marks. Trivial spotting appears confined to the first few leaves and the page edges, with only occasional, trivial incursions onto blank inner margins. The top edge shows light shelf dust.



The book is housed in a full red Morocco goatskin Solander case featuring rounded, hubbed spine, the spine bands gilt rule framed and gilt decorated, the covers with gilt rule borders, the interior lined with red velvet. Condition of the case is as-new, with no reportable wear, soiling, fading, or blemishes.

Reference: Cohen A8.1.a, Woods/ICS A5(a), Langworth p.59 [CBC #007220]

\$2,000 USD



10

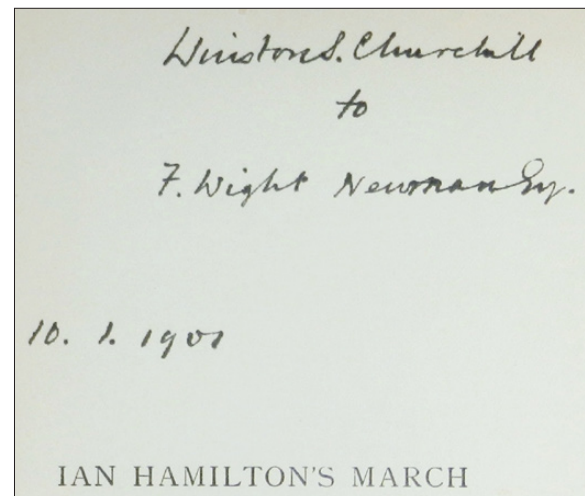
Ian Hamilton's March

Inscribed and dated in January 1901 by Churchill during his first lecture tour of the U.S. and Canada
Longmans, Green, & Co., New York, 1900

This is an inscribed U.S. first edition, only printing of Winston Churchill's fifth book. This copy was inscribed by then-twenty-six-year-old Churchill for noted impresario F. Wight Neumann in Chicago on 10 January 1901 during Churchill's first lecture tour of North America. Such early signatures in first editions of Churchill's early works are quite scarce, even more so for U.S. first editions.

The Signature

The signature, in black ink in four lines on the upper half-title, reads:
"Winston S. Churchill | to | F. Wight Neuman Esq. | 10.1.1901"

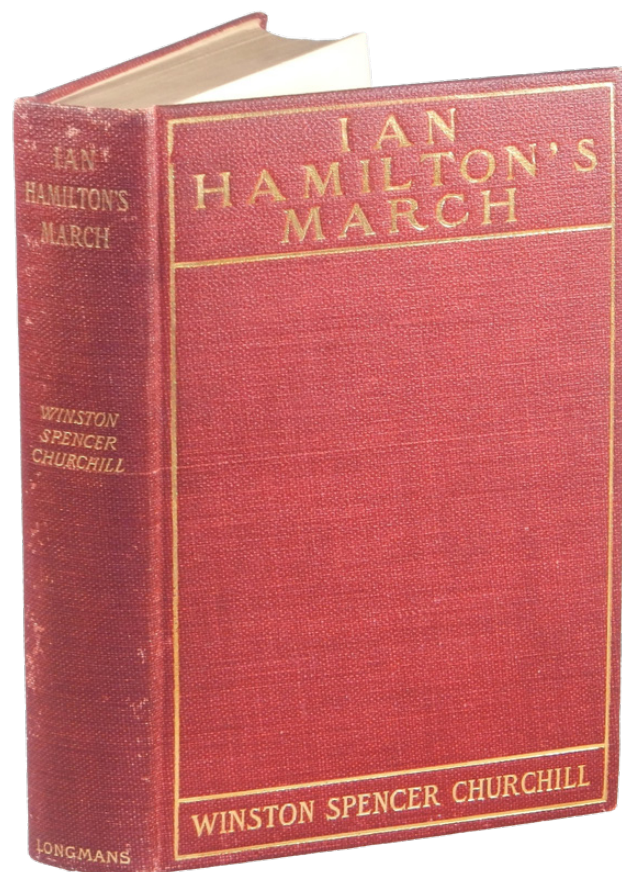
*Condition*

The excellent condition of this copy would render it collector-worthy, independent of the author's signature.

The red cloth binding remains unusually clean and tight, with sharp corners, and bright gilt and only trivial wear to extremities. The spine toning and uneven coloration endemic to this edition is mild. The spine retains excellent color and vivid gilt, with only a barely discernible hint of uniform toning and modest instances of the typical discoloration.

The contents are uncommonly bright and crisp. A trace of spotting is confined to the frontispiece tissue guard and the fore edge. The top edge gilt remains bright. Other than the author's inscription, the sole previous ownership mark we find is a half dozen illegible, tiny pencil script letters at the upper left rear pastedown that we have refrained from erasing just in case some future owner may be able to decipher them.

The inscription remains clear and bright, with minimal age spreading on a bright and otherwise unmarked half title page. The date is written with European, rather than U.S. precedence, with the month "1" following the day "10" making the date of inscription 10 January 1901. It is interesting to note that Churchill omits the second "n" at the end of Neumann's name and it appears as if he initially misspelled the name as "Newman", with a bit of extra ink at the "um" transition seeming a possible attempt to correct the spelling error as it was being inked.

*Provenance*

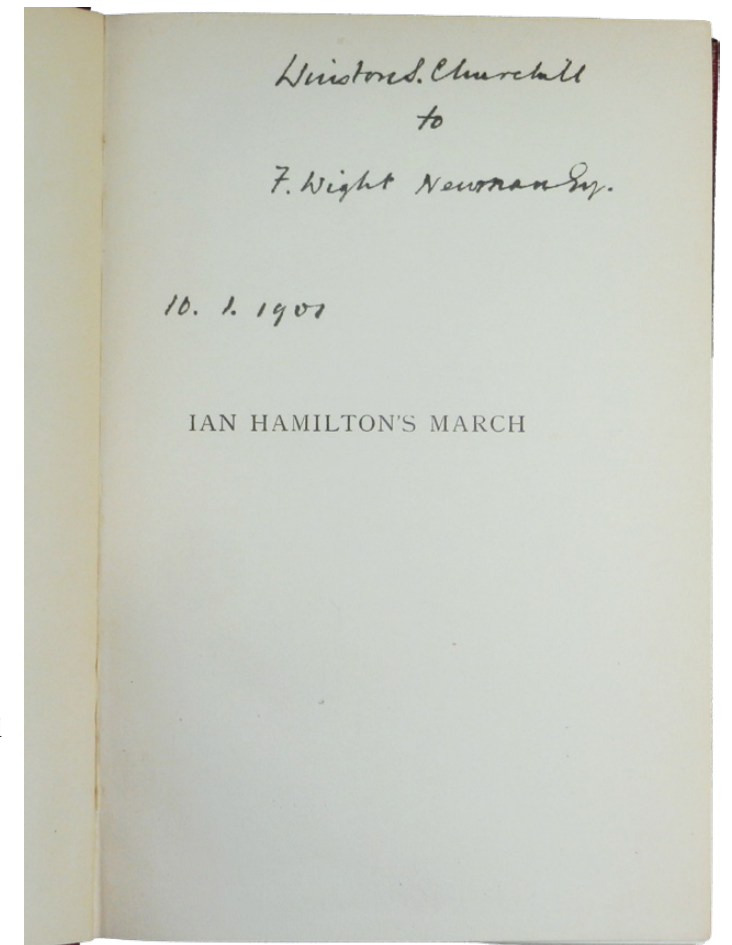
Unlike so many signed copies, we have provenance going back to the time of signing. The book remained in Neumann's family until 2003, when ownership transferred from Neumann's grandson, Sterling E. Selz, to his friend and fellow collector John Patrick Ford (1927-2018), from whom it was in turn acquired by Churchill Book Collector.

In October 1900, Churchill had won his first seat in Parliament partly on the strength of his celebrity as a Boer War hero, having been captured and made a daring escape. Churchill's lecture tour of the United States and Canada was intended to improve his finances at a time when MPs received no salary. Churchill arrived in New York on board the *Lucania* on December 8, 1900.

German-born F. Wight Neumann (1851-1924) was a Chicago-based impresario, "one of the most noted impresarios in America" and "friend of virtually every prominent musician in the country" who "brought all of the great artists of the world to Chicago." (*Chicago Daily Tribune*, 23 October 1924 Obituary) Also appearing under his management in Chicago were select authors, among them the young Winston Churchill. Arriving in Chicago on the morning of 10 January 1901, Churchill lectured that evening on "The Boer War as I Saw It" at Central Music Hall and was entertained after his lecture by "forty members of the University Club at an informal reception in the club grillroom." Churchill's second and final Boer War book, published in the U.S. on 26 November 1900, would have been both available at the time and perfectly suited to his lecture.

Churchill's lecture tour had faced challenges and disappointments, among them smaller audiences and profits than anticipated, a frustrating tour manager, and the "strong pro Boer feeling" among "almost half" of some of his audiences. (21 December 1900 letter from Churchill to his mother) By the time of his Chicago lecture, Churchill had apparently found ways to deal with this last problem. When he displayed an image of "a typical Boer soldier", a gallery spectator hurrahed the Boers and "the cry was taken up by a large part of the audience," followed by hisses from pro-British listeners. Churchill deftly responded: "Don't hiss. There is one of the heroes of history. The man in the gallery is right. No true-hearted Englishman will grudge a brave foe cheers." This "put the audience in good humour" and gave Churchill "the considerate attention of his audience." (*The Chicago Tribune*, 11 January 1901) Churchill's lecture "was much interrupted with the applause of an audience which comfortably filled the hall." At his reception following the lecture, "Mr. Churchill was called on for a speech and replied in a witty recital of the many bonds of union which exist between the English and Americas." (*The Chicago Tribune*, 11 January 1901)

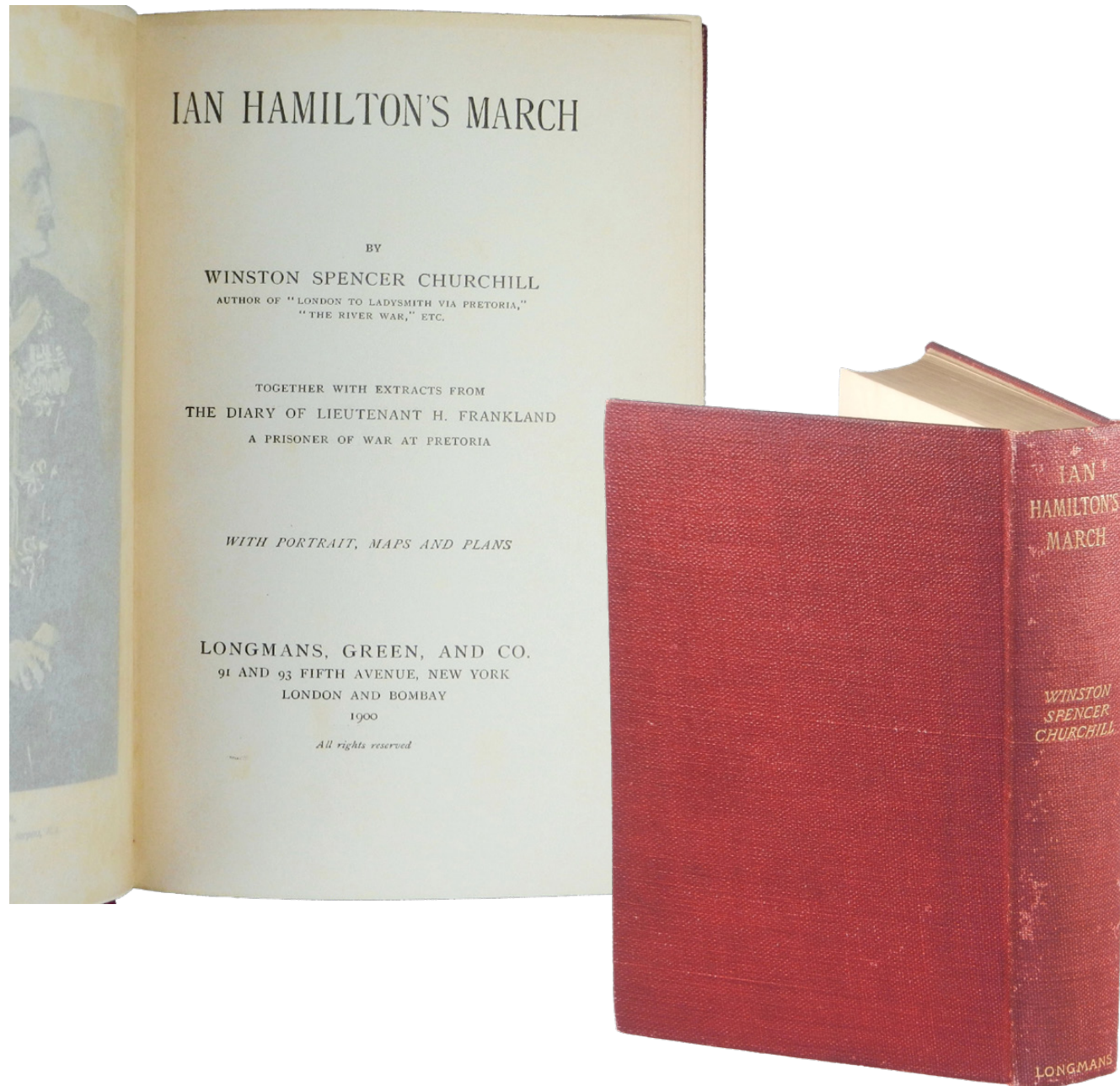
Churchill left the United States for England on 2 February aboard the *SS Etruria*. In a lecture tour that had proven both challenging and exhausting, Churchill had met President McKinley, dined with recently elected Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt, and been introduced by Mark Twain. He had taken his first full measure of the tenor and spirit of the nation that would prove his - and Britain's - vital partner in the two world wars to come. While Churchill was abroad, Queen Victoria died, and the end of her 64-year reign also closed Churchill's Victorian career as a cavalry officer and war correspondent adventurer. Churchill took his first seat in Parliament on 14 February 1901 and began a 60 plus-year career as one of the 20th Century's great statesmen.



11

Mr. Brodrick's Army

The Churchilliana Company, Sacramento, 1977



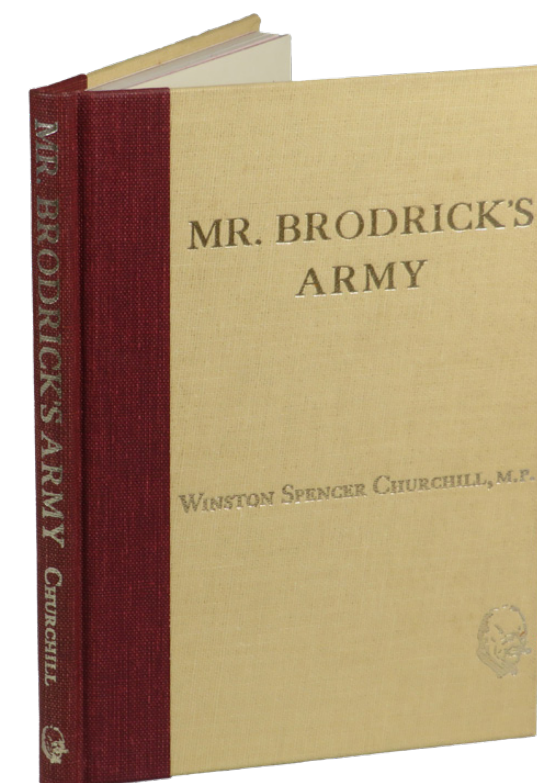
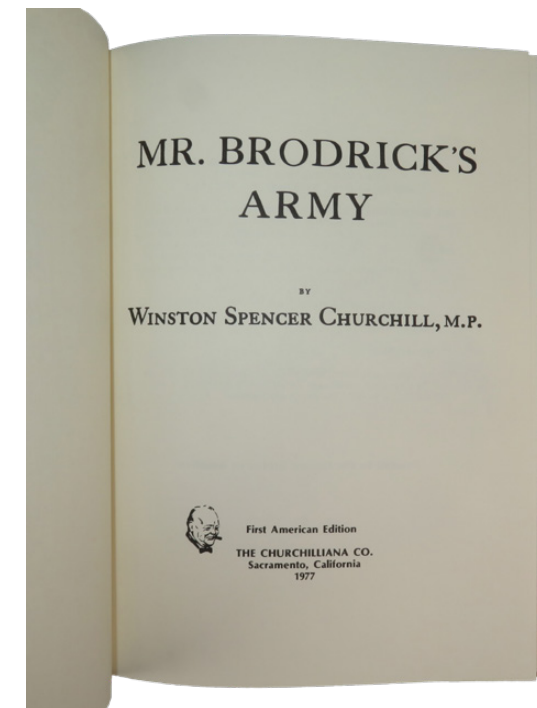
The Edition

The U.S. first edition saw only a single printing. The number sold is unclear, but seems to be fewer than 1,500. Published on 26 November 1900, the U.S. first edition was thus available for sale when Churchill arrived in New York on 8 December 1900 for his first North American lecture tour.

Like the U.S. first edition of *Ladysmith*, the U.S. first edition of *Ian Hamilton's March* is bound in pebble grain red buckram which proved physically, but not aesthetically durable, susceptible to blotchy wear and discoloration, particularly on the spine.

Reference: Cohen A8.2, Woods/ICS A5(ca), Langworth p.61. [CBC #003371]

\$20,000 USD



This copy of the first U.S. edition in the publisher's "Collector's" binding is in as-new condition with no wear, soiling, previous ownership marks, or any signs of handling or use. We acquired this copy long ago from the original publisher's unsold stock.

The 1903 first edition of *Mr. Brodrick's Army* is the scarcest of all Churchill books and commands a towering premium on the rare occasion a copy is offered for sale. The good news is that there is an alternative for both readers and collectors. Published in 1977, this first U.S. edition was issued 74 years after the British first edition. This edition was a meticulous facsimile reprint. Within, the original work of 102 pages in red card wraps is faithfully reproduced and 5 additional pages are added at the front, including a preface by Manfred Weidhorn. The publisher offered two grades of binding – a brick red cloth "library" binding and this "collector's" binding featuring brown buckram spine over yellow-tan linen cloth covered boards. In both binding variants, the spine and front cover are gilt-stamped. The endpapers reproduce Churchill's entry in *Who's Who*.

In 1903, Winston Churchill was a brash new Member of Parliament. The Secretary of State for War, John Brodrick, had introduced a plan for expanding the peacetime Army. Brodrick was a fellow Conservative and Cabinet member. Churchill had been an Army officer and had participated in four wars on three continents before election to Parliament in 1900. Nonetheless, Churchill vehemently assaulted Brodrick's plan. Fascinatingly, this was the same fight upon which Churchill's father, Lord Randolph Churchill, had gambled and lost his own political career in 1886. Unlike his father, Churchill ultimately prevailed; Brodrick was left politically isolated and removed from the War Office to become Secretary of State for India.

Churchill's opposition included six major speeches on the subject. These six oratorical assaults were published in 1903 by Arthur L. Humphreys of London in an extravagantly rare wraps edition titled *Mr. Brodrick's Army*. The political fight over Brodrick's Army scheme was a personal and political watershed for Churchill. It can fairly be said that the young Churchill's brazen and successful opposition to a powerful figure in his own party on this particular issue helped him emerge from the long shadow of his father. Moreover, the fight helped set the stage for Churchill's 1904 defection from the Conservatives to join the Liberal Party.

Reference: Cohen A10.3.a, Woods/ICS A6(c), Langworth p.67. [CBC #007222]

\$200 USD

12

Lord Randolph Churchill

An exceptional set in the exceptionally rare dust jackets
Macmillan and Company, London, 1906

Lord Randolph Churchill

Winston Churchill's father, Lord Randolph, died in January 1895, at age 45, following the spectacular collapse of both his health and political career. His son Winston was 20 years old.

When he first contemplated writing his father's biography Churchill was a still an itinerant soldier and war correspondent who had yet to write his first book. The son still dwelt very much in his father's shadow, both emotionally and in terms of the political career to which he already aspired.

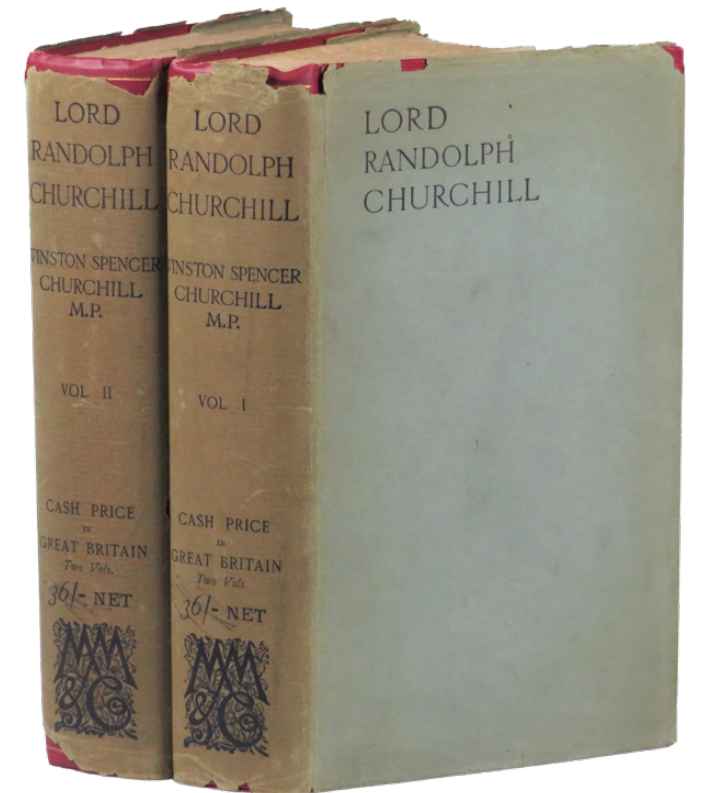
By the time the work was published in 1906, Churchill already had half a dozen books to his credit and half a decade in Parliament. Additionally, he had already left his father's political party, prevailed in the same political battle that had terminated his father's career, and was just two years from his first Cabinet post.

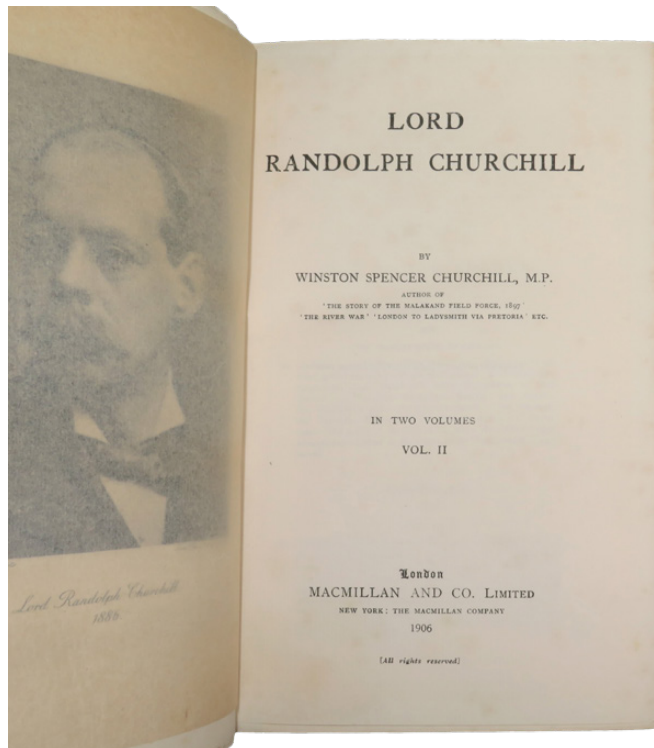
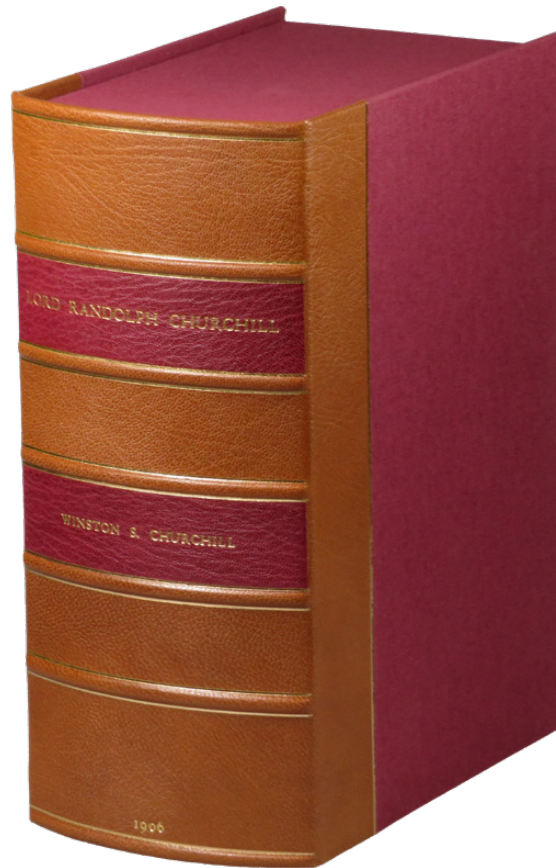
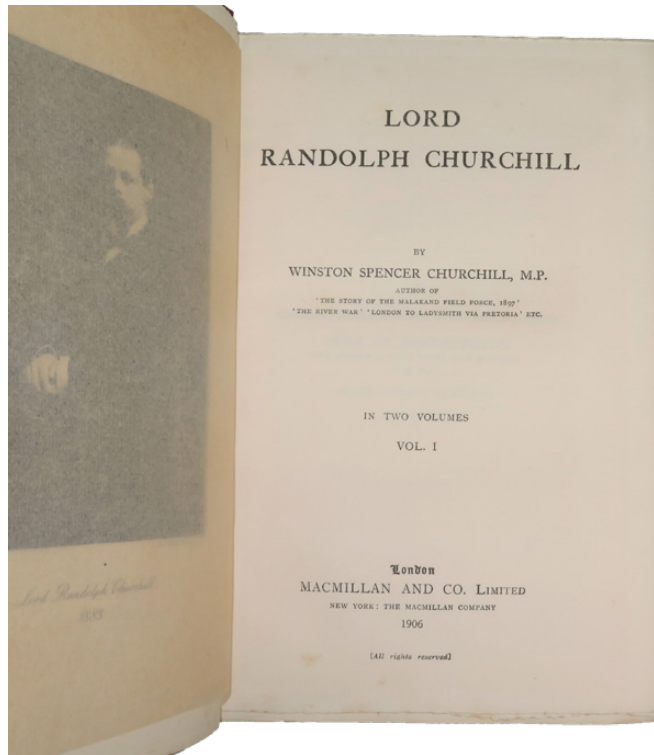
That Churchill would be selected as biographer by Lord Randolph's executors was not a foregone conclusion. Churchill first entertained the idea soon after his father's death, but it was not until late in 1902 that he was appointed. Churchill then spent two and a half years researching and writing. We can assume that it was not only a major literary effort, but an emotional one as well. Of the work, Churchill wrote to Lord Rosebery on 11 September 1902: "It is all most interesting to me - and melancholy too". (R. Churchill, WSC, Companion Volume II, Part I, p.438)

Churchill was criticized by some reviewers for overplaying his father's accomplishments. Nonetheless, the work was well received both as a frank portrayal of Randolph's extremes and as a showcase for the son's literary talent. The first edition is aesthetically pleasing, featuring deep red cloth, untrimmed page edges, gilt stamping, and the family coat of arms on the front covers. However, the red cloth binding of this edition proved quite susceptible to fading and wear and the contents to heavy spotting. First edition sets are not especially uncommon, but collector worthy sets are scarce. Dust jackets for both the British and American first editions are extravagantly rare.

This is a collector's prize – the two-volume first edition, only printing of Winston Churchill's biography of his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, each volume in its original dust jacket.

This first edition is aesthetically pleasing, featuring deep red cloth, untrimmed page edges, and gilt stamping, including the Churchill coat of arms in gilt on the front covers. However, the red cloth binding of this edition proved quite susceptible to fading and wear and the contents to heavy spotting. First edition sets are not especially uncommon, but collector worthy sets are elusive and entirely unfaded sets are virtually unknown without the dust jackets. To call the dust jackets "rare" is understatement; only five jackets total are known to survive – two for Volume I and three for Volume II. Here, then, is forty percent of the known total and one of only two complete jacketed sets. The jackets are printed in dark blue on gray-blue laid paper. The front faces feature only the printed title, the rear faces advertise a list of "Macmillan & Co.'s New Books", and the spines feature title, author (with "Spencer" spelled out), and volume number above the price and an ornately illustrated publisher's device. The jacket flaps are blank.





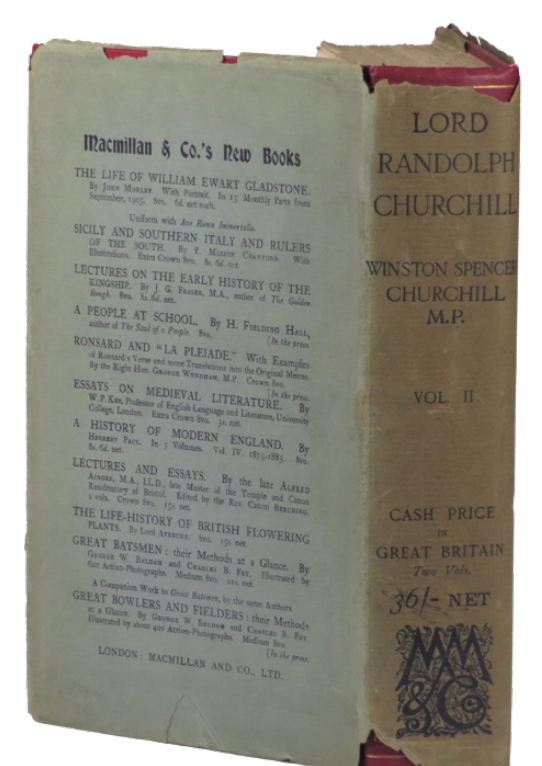
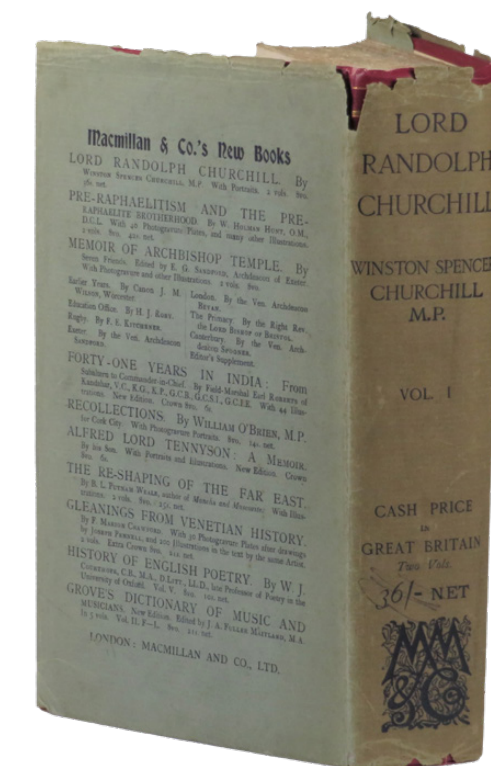
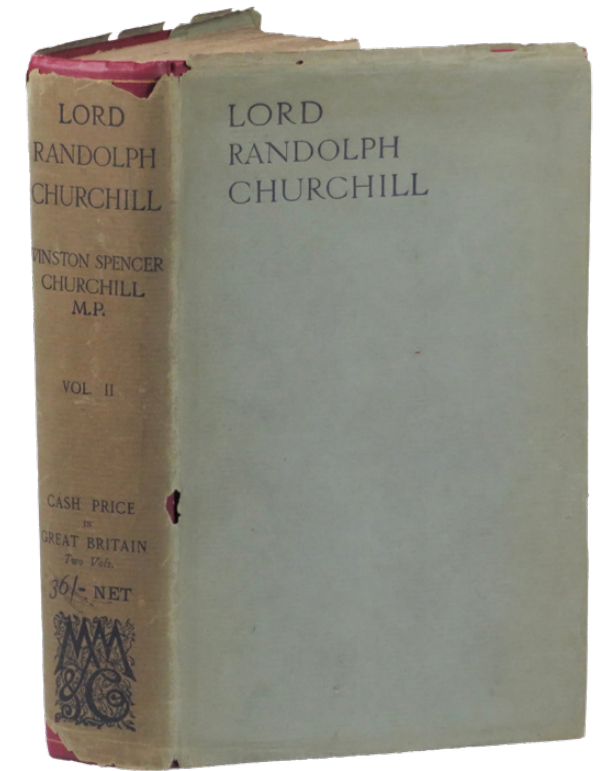
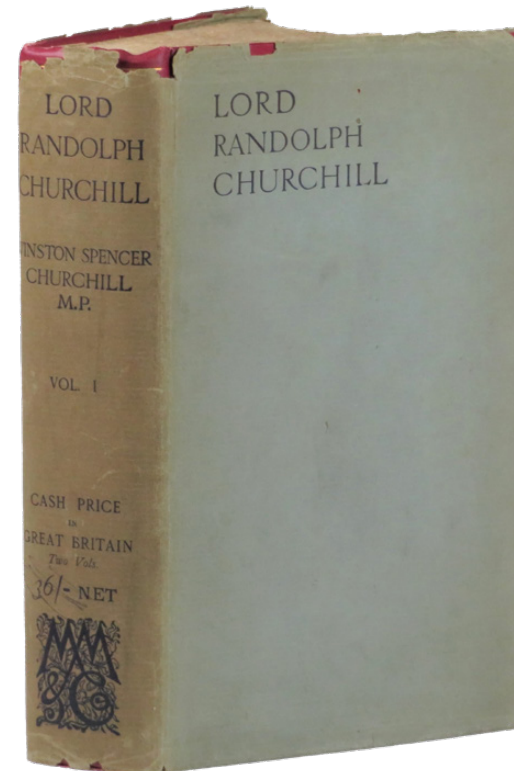
This jacketed set is exceptional. The bindings are, as one would expect, the brightest we have encountered, the red cloth entirely unfaded, the gilt vividly bright. The bindings are square and tight with only light shelf wear to extremities, three of the Volume I corners with small bumps. Set against even the brightest unjacketed examples, these bindings make a distinct and favorable contrast. The contents remain crisp and bright, retaining a crisp, unread feel. We find no previous owner names. Differential toning to the endpapers corresponding to the dust jacket flaps corroborates what the bindings already testify – that this copy has spent life jacketed. The chief defect is one endemic to the edition – spotting, light and intermittent generally, heavier to the first and final leaves, and apparent to the otherwise clean page edges.

The simple fact that the dust jackets are present defies the mundanities of a condition report. Nonetheless, both jackets are substantially complete, with print intact, though with perimeter losses and wear. Both jacket spines are evenly toned, though all print remains distinct. The “36/- NET” price on each lower spine shows multiple bisecting pen lines, as if half-heartedly crossed out long ago by a bookseller. The Volume

The set is housed in a custom quarter Morocco goatskin Solander featuring a rounded and hubbed tan leather spine with gilt-framed raised bands and twin dark red Morocco spine labels over dark red cloth sides and interior.

Reference: Cohen A17.1, Woods A8(a), Langworth p.69. [CBC #006880]

\$18,500 USD



I jacket shows perimeter losses to the spine ends, upper edges, and corners, the worst being a .75 inch (1.9 cm) loss to the upper rear hinge. The Volume II jacket likewise shows loss to the spine ends, upper rear face, and corners, as well as a small loss to the lower front joint adjacent to the printed price. The most significant Volume II jacket losses are an irregular strip loss to the spine head to a maximum depth of .5 inch (1.3 cm) and a triangular loss to a maximum depth of .5 inch (1.3 cm) at the lower rear joint. The jacket has a 2 inch (5.1 cm) split to the lower front flap with minor associated chipping and a .625 inch (1.6 cm) closed tear and attendant wrinkling to the bottom edge of the rear face. Both jackets are protected beneath clear, removable, archival covers.

13

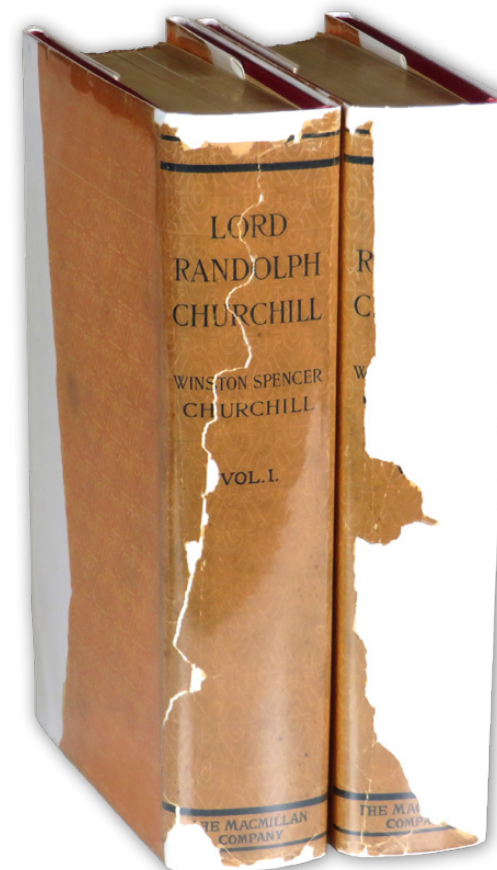
Lord Randolph Churchill

An exceptional set in the exceptionally rare dust jackets
Macmillan & Co., Ltd., New York, 1906

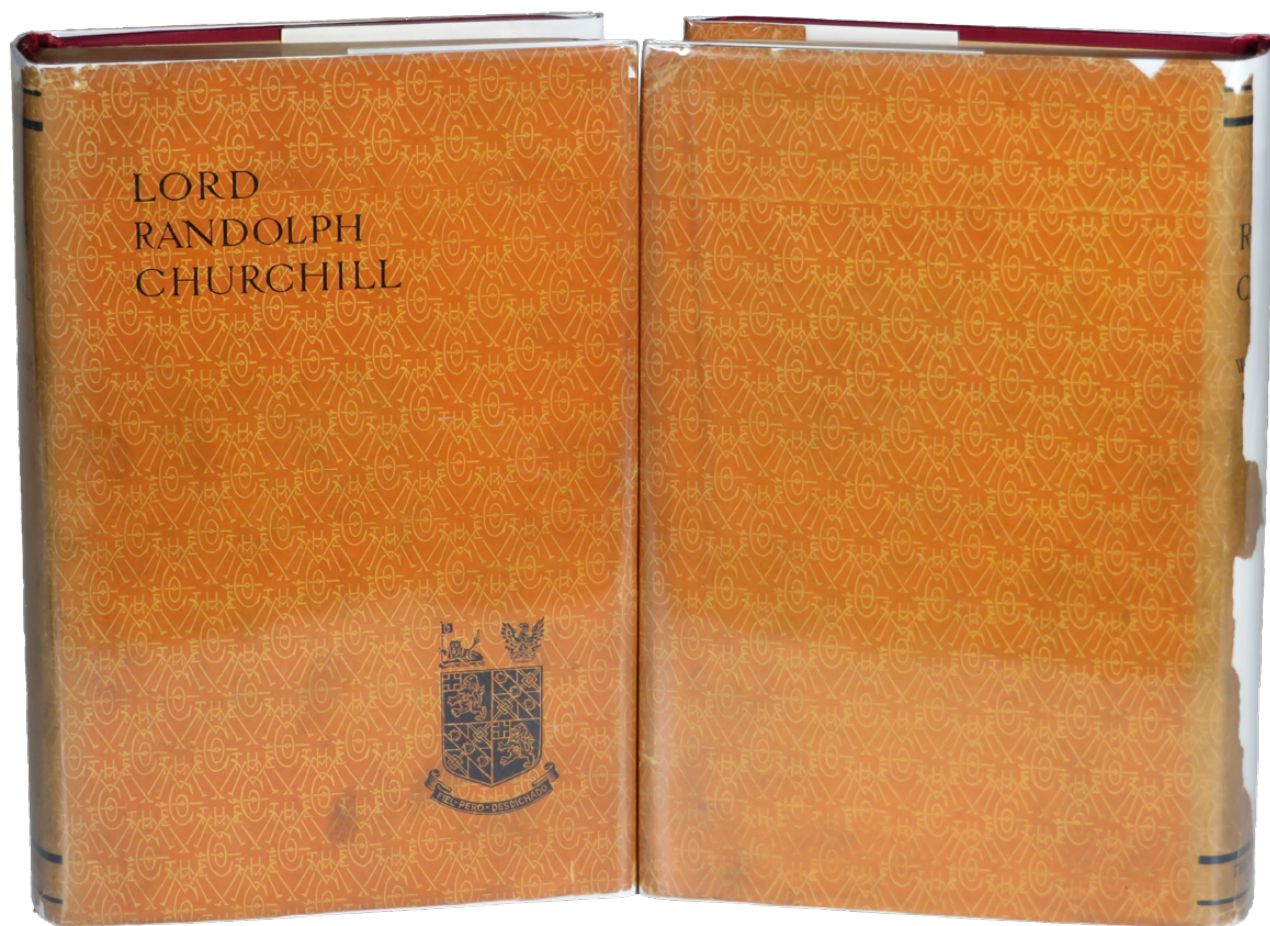
This is the first U.S. edition, only printing, of Winston Churchill's 1906 biography of his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, one of only two sets known to retain any portion of the extravagantly rare original dust jackets.

This U.S. edition is visually similar but aesthetically more elaborate than its British counterpart, adding gilt top page edges and a lightly scored cloth binding. What was unknown to bibliographers and collectors until we discovered this set was that the U.S. publisher originally issued the set in dust jackets. Instead of the comparatively restrained, tan dust jackets of the British first edition, this set informs us that the U.S. dust jackets were strikingly different, printed in vivid orange on lighter orange stock, the entire field of the jackets printed with repeating rows of a stylized publisher's device. This orange field is overprinted in black with the Churchill coat of arms on the lower right front face, title on the upper left front face, and title, author, volume, and publisher on the spine, echoing the gilt stamping on the bindings beneath.

This set features extraordinary, near fine plus volumes, each beneath significant portions of their original dust jackets. The Volume I dust jacket retains the front flap, front face, spine, and two-thirds of the rear face. The spine is toned with a ragged, roughly vertical split with small attendant chips, shallow loss at the spine ends, and a partial split with some loss at the upper front flap fold. The Volume II dust jacket retains the front and rear flaps, full rear face, and fragments of the left side of the spine. Fortunately, the respective fragments together show the entirety of the jackets, and the faces and flap folds retain strikingly bright, unfaded orange hue. Each partial jacket is now protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover, backed with acid-neutral paper.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



The bindings beneath the jackets are the cleanest, brightest examples we have ever seen. If you are inclined to be churlish and ungrateful, you might note bumps to the upper rear corner of Volume I and upper corners of Volume II, lesser shelf wear to all corners, and minor wrinkling and wear to the spine ends. The contents are magnificently bright, approaching pristine, with no spotting, no previous owner names, bright gilt top edges, and immaculately clean, untrimmed fore and bottom edges. There is a cosmetic split to Volume I front gutter, splitting the endpapers, exposing the intact mull beneath, but not affecting binding integrity.

14

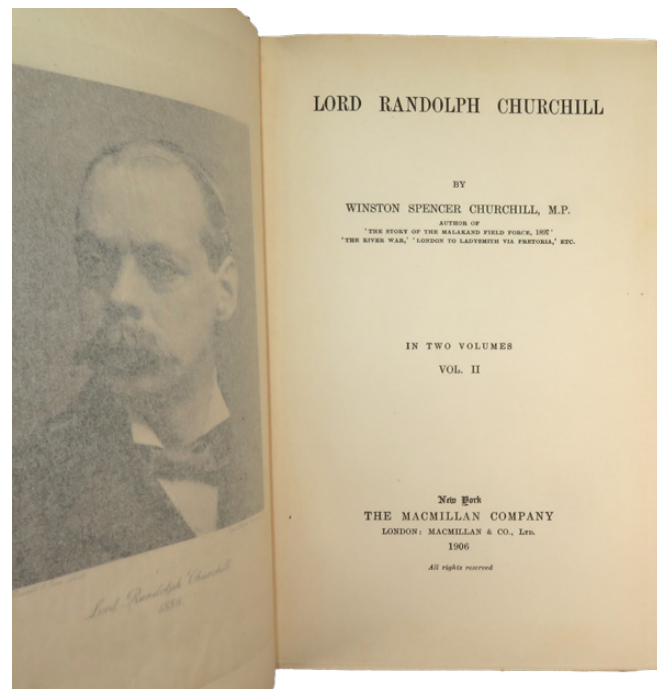
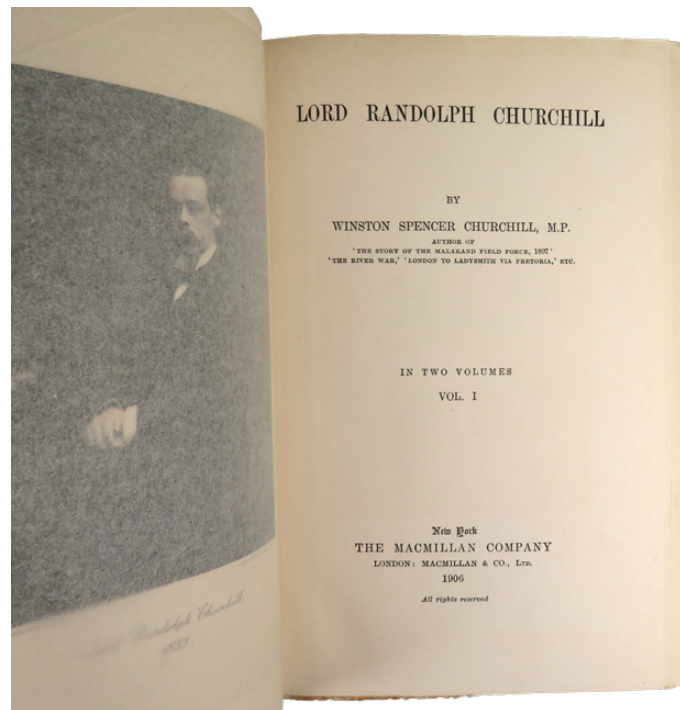
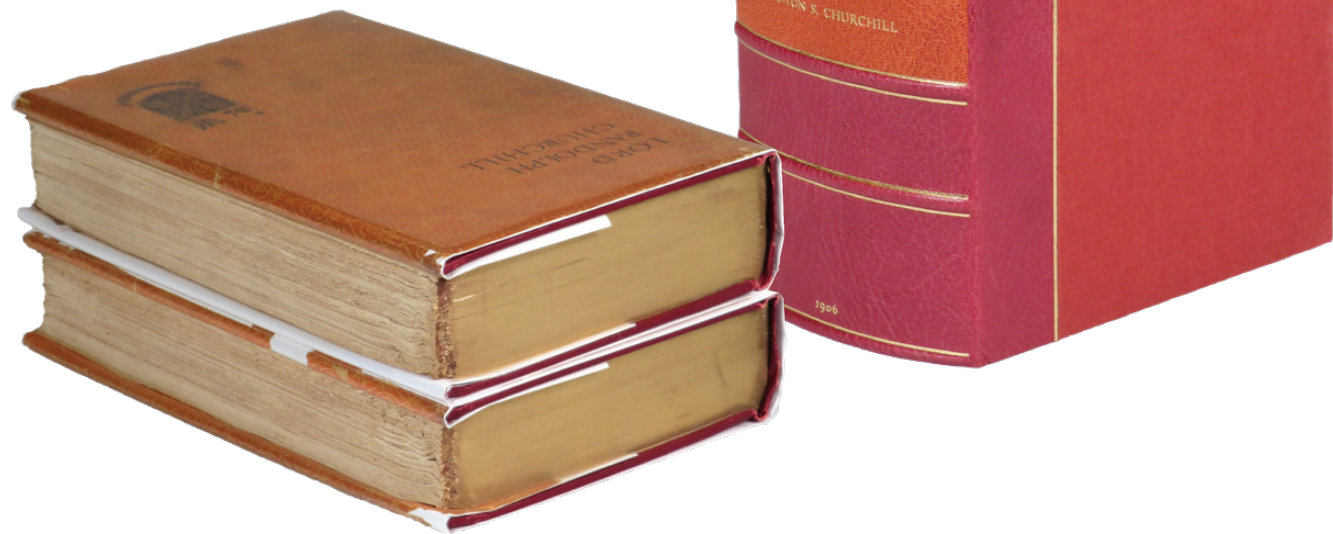
For Free Trade

The Churchilliana Company, Sacramento, 1977

The set is housed in a custom quarter Morocco goatskin Solander featuring a rounded and hubbed dark red leather spine with gilt-framed raised bands and twin dark orange Morocco spine labels over dark orange cloth sides and interior, which is further lined with marbled paper.

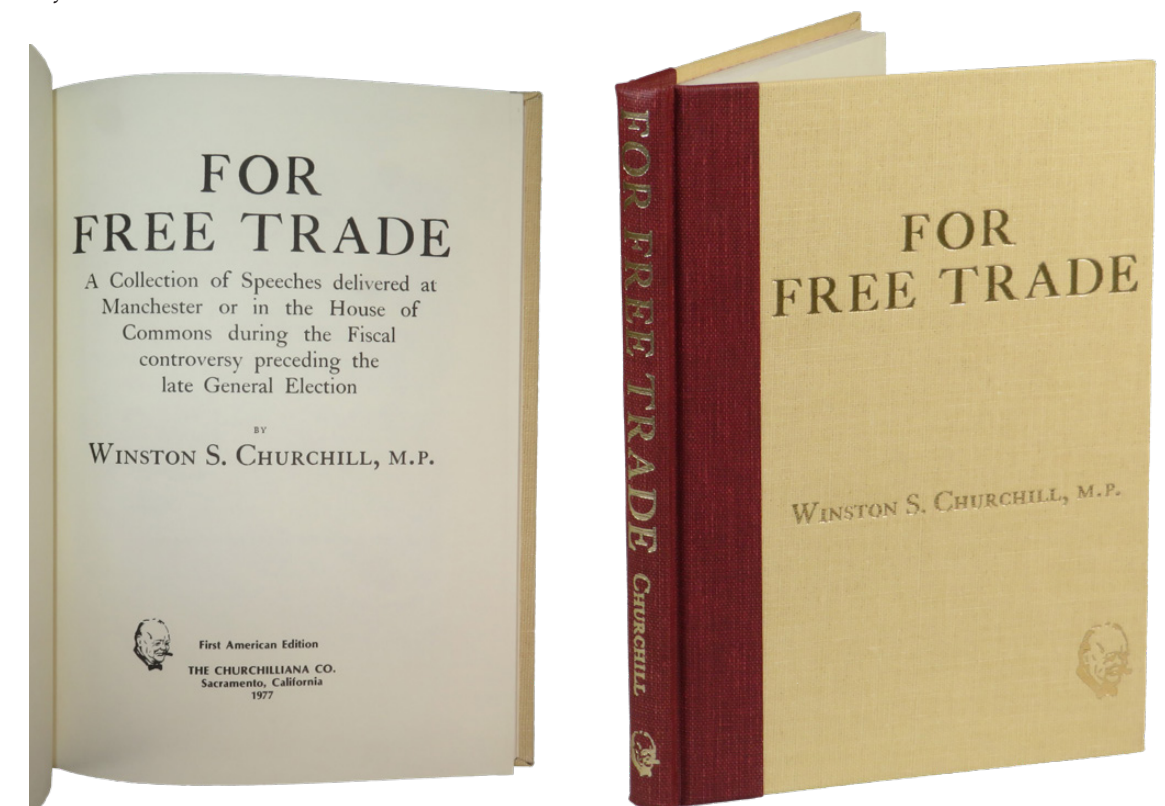
Reference: Cohen A17.2, Woods/ICS A8(ab), Langworth p.71 [CBC #007221]

\$7,500 USD



This copy of the first U.S. edition in the publisher's "Collector's" binding is in as-new condition with no wear, soiling, previous ownership marks, or any signs of handling or use. We acquired this copy long ago from the publisher's unsold stock.

First published in 1906, *For Free Trade* is the second scarcest of all Churchill's book-length works (second only to *Mr. Brodrick's Army*). The good news is that there is an alternative for both readers and collectors. This meticulous facsimile reprint of the original 1906 first edition was produced in 1977 and is the first American edition. Within the original 119 pages plus red card wraps are faithfully reproduced, and 5 additional pages are added at the front, including a preface by Manfred Weidhorn. The publisher offered two grades of binding – a brick red cloth "library" binding and this "collector's binding" featuring brown buckram spine over yellow-tan linen cloth covered boards. In both binding variants, the spine and front cover are gilt-stamped. The endpapers reproduce Churchill's entry in Who's Who.



In late May 1904, Churchill famously left his father's Conservative Party and crossed the aisle to become a Liberal, swiftly earning a reputation as both a brash young radical and a traitor to his class. The 1906 General Election was the first which Churchill fought as a Liberal. Free trade was a policy issue on which he had opposed Conservative Party leadership and which had helped precipitate his defection from the party. Churchill's first constituency (from 1900-1906) as a Member of Parliament – Oldham – favored the Conservative policy of protectionism. Churchill's advocacy of free trade and defection to the Liberal Party led the Oldham Conservative Association to pass a resolution that he "had forfeited their confidence in him." Churchill was invited to stand for North West Manchester, a traditionally Conservative seat that he won as a Liberal in the 1906 General Election.

Reference: Cohen A18.2.a, Woods/ICS A9(b), Langworth p.79. [CBC #007223]

\$200 USD

My African Journey

My African Journey is Churchill's travelogue on Britain's possessions in East Africa, written while he was serving as Undersecretary of State for the Colonies under Lord Elgin. This book is notable, among other reasons, for being the only one of his many books to contain photographs allegedly taken by the author.

In the summer of 1907 Churchill left England for five months, making his way after working stops in southern Europe to Africa for "a tour of the east African domains." Churchill enjoyed a proper 19th Century bwana experience, traveling by special train provided by the Uganda Railway, receiving tribute from various chiefs, and shooting all manner of things. In early November, Churchill killed a rhinoceros, the basis of the striking illustration on the front cover of the British first edition of his eventual book.

By now a seasoned and financially shrewd author, Churchill arranged to profit doubly from the trip, first by serializing articles and then by publishing a book based substantially upon them. Nine articles on his African journey were published in *Strand Magazine* from March to November 1908. In November 1908 Hodder and Stoughton published *My African Journey* as a book. While Churchill's *Strand* articles make up the bulk of the book, the last two chapters plus an additional paragraph in Chapter X did not appear in *Strand* and the book is 10,000 words longer than the serialized articles.

The British first edition is striking, with a vivid red binding and a prominent front cover featuring a woodcut illustration in blue, grey, and black of Churchill with his bagged white rhinoceros. The first edition includes 3 maps and 61 photographs on 47 plates.

The red cloth spine proved exceptionally vulnerable to sunning and the lovely books seem to have attracted handling, making wear and soiling the norm. Spotting is also endemic. Truly bright and clean copies are scarce. Moreover, since the photographic plates of this edition were tipped in rather than bound, copies should always carefully collated to ensure the presence of all illustrations and maps. We have encountered many copies with loose or missing plates.

MY AFRICAN JOURNEY

BY THE RT. HON.
WINSTON SPENCER CHURCHILL
M.P.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

15

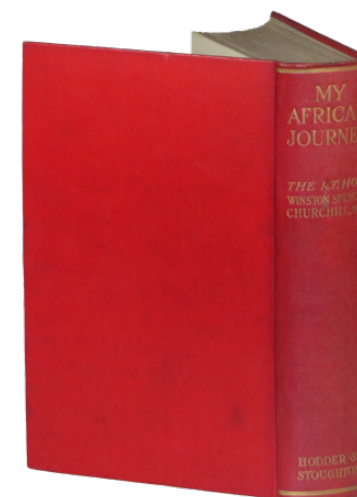
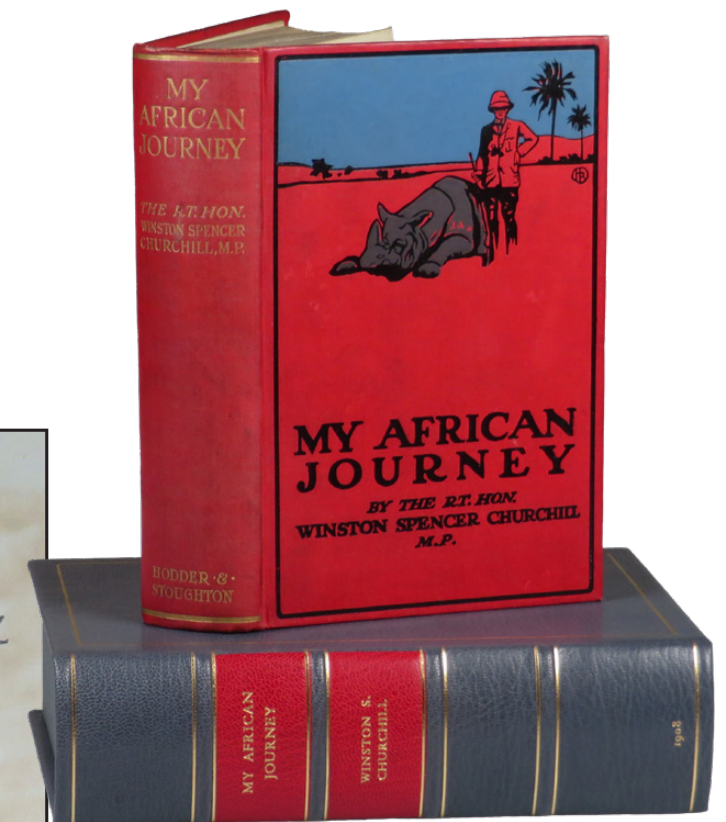
My African Journey

Signed and dated by Churchill the day after publication to Churchill's fellow Cabinet member and then-Colonial Secretary Robert Offley Ashburton Crewe-Milnes, 1st Marquess of Crewe
Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1908

This rare prize is the British first edition of *My African Journey*, signed and dated by Winston S. Churchill upon publication. Three lines in black ink on the front free endpaper read: "From | Winston S. Churchill | 1 Dec 1908". Publication was 30 November 1908. An armorial bookplate affixed to the front pastedown testifies that this copy belonged to the Marquess of Crewe, Churchill's fellow Cabinet member when this copy was signed.

Condition of this copy would be noteworthy even without the inscription. The distinctive illustrated red cloth binding remains square and tight with sharp corners and only trivial hints of shelf wear to extremities. We note minor overall soiling. Shelf presentation is impressive for the edition, with only slight spine toning. The contents are bright with a crisp feel. Modest spotting is intermittent, primarily confined to blank inner margins, heavier only to first and final leaves. All 61 photographs and three maps are intact, including the frontispiece and tissue cover. Confirming the age and originality of the bookplate, the ghosted outline of the bookplate is clearly visible amid transfer browning to the signed front free endpaper.

Imu
Winston S. Churchill
1 Dec 1908



Robert Offley Ashburton Crewe-Milnes, 1st Marquess of Crewe (1858-1945) both inherited his father's title and "shared his father's Liberalism". His father's death in 1885 put him in the House of Lords as Baron Houghton, where he was made a Liberal whip. The death of his first wife in 1887 sidelined his political career. Like Churchill, he supported Home Rule, which led to his 1892 return to politics as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. In 1894, a year before the Liberals fell from power, the third Baron Crewe died and Baron Houghton succeeded to the Crewe estates and became Earl of Crewe. From the beginning of Campbell-Bannerman's premiership, "Crewe became a pivotal figure in Liberal governments from 1905-1916". Crewe enjoyed the trust of both Campbell-Bannerman and his successor, Asquith, to whom Crewe was "principal political aide and confidant... during the eight years of his premiership". Crewe thus served in Cabinets alongside a young Winston Churchill, who first joined the Cabinet in 1908, the same year that he published *My African Journey*.

Fittingly, in 1908 Crewe succeeded Lord Elgin as Colonial Secretary; Churchill wrote his travelogue on Britain's possessions in East Africa while he was serving as Elgin's Undersecretary of State for the Colonies. Crewe was made a Marquess in 1911. Though Asquith's departure from office "virtually ended his career as a national politician", Crewe later served as ambassador to France, spent ten weeks in the Cabinet of Ramsay MacDonald, and led independent Liberals in the House of Lords from 1936 to the end of 1944.

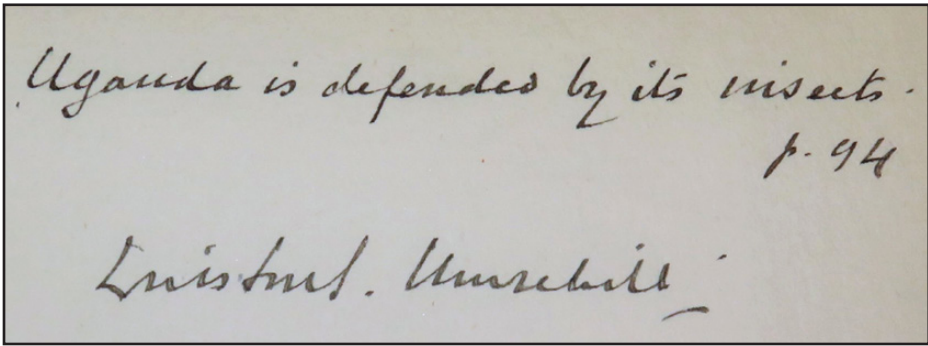
Reference: Cohen A27.1, Woods/ICS A12(aa), Langworth p.81 [CBC #004946]

\$18,000 USD



16

My African Journey
The first state of the first U.S. edition, inscribed and signed by Churchill
Hodder and Stoughton (for George H. Doran Company), New York, 1908

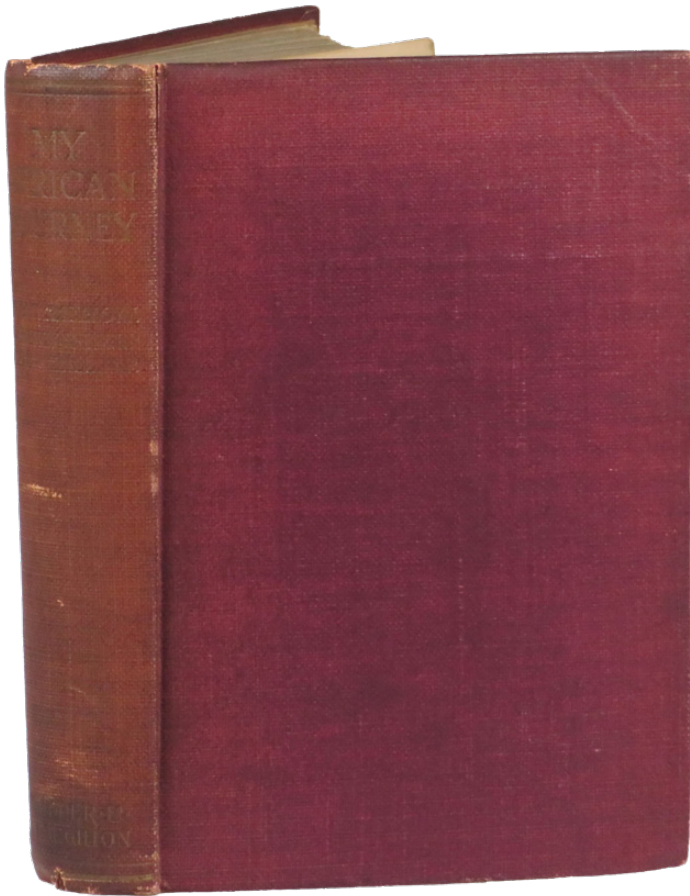


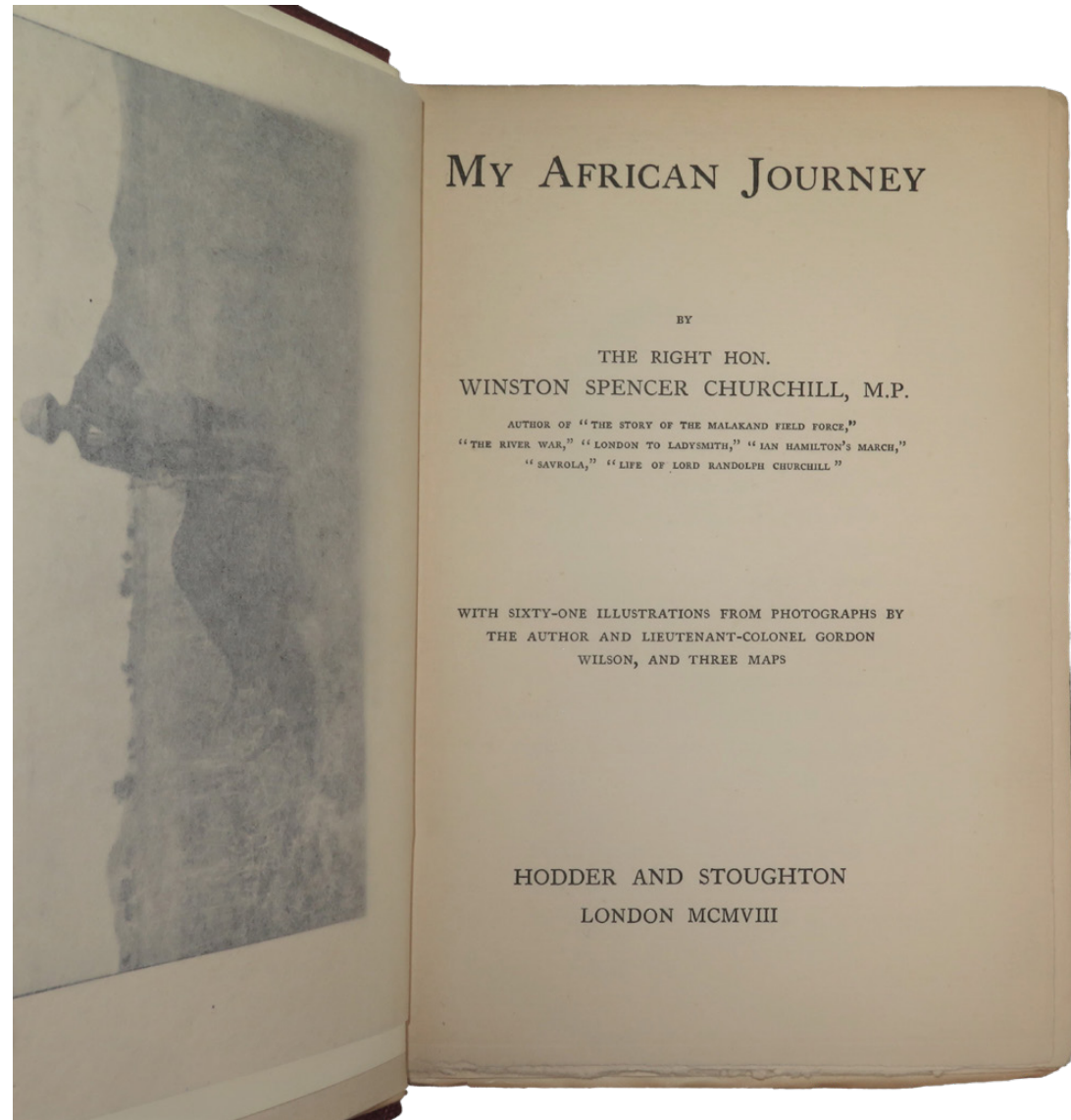
This is the U.S. first edition, humbler in appearance than its British counterpart, but also far more scarce. It is scarcer still in the first state. It is extravagantly scarce thus, inscribed and signed by the author in three lines. On the upper half title Churchill wrote "Uganda is defended by its insects." Directly below he wrote the citation to where this quote is found in the text: "p.94". Below, Churchill signed "Winston S. Churchill".

Condition

Condition of this intriguingly inscribed copy approaches very good. First state is confirmed by "Hodder and Stoughton" as the only publisher on the title page. The American binding was comparatively plain and aesthetically uninspired compared to that of the British first edition. The cloth proved highly susceptible to fading and mottling of the color; nearly all remaining copies show spine sunning. This copy's binding is square and tight, though spine toned with light scuffing and color variation to the boards. A clean split to the cloth of the upper front joint does not affect binding integrity or appreciably impact aesthetic appearance. Modest shelf wear shows at the corners, hinges, and spine ends, with a miniscule split and minor fraying at the spine heel. The contents are surprisingly clean for the edition. We find no spotting. Other than the author's inscription, the only previous ownership marking of any kind is a tiny, personal library sticker printed "7246" and affixed to the upper front pastedown. The untrimmed fore and bottom edges show some age-toning and the top edge shows shelf dust. The 61 photographs of this edition were tipped in rather than bound, and plates often go missing. In this case, all photographic plates are present and intact, including the frontispiece, the frontispiece tissue guard, and the three maps. The only damage noted is a tiny chip and .375 inch (.95 cm) split to the lower fore edge of the front free endpaper.

Provenance is of note; this book came to us from the personal collection of Churchill's bibliographer, Ronald I. Cohen, where it resided for more than four decades.





The Edition

The first U.S. edition is far scarcer than the British first edition, with only 1400 copies sold (encompassing all three states), in contrast to more than 8000 copies of the more frequently seen British edition. The U.S. first edition was made from British first edition sheets bound in a plain coarse dark red cloth with the same gilt titles on the spine as used on the British. Unlike its British counterpart, the sheets were left untrimmed on the fore and bottom edges and were bound without the Hodder and Stoughton catalogue at the rear.

The three states of these U.S. first editions differ only in the title pages. This first state lists "Hodder and Stoughton" at the foot of the title page and the location as "London". The second state still lists "Hodder & Stoughton" but with an ampersand instead of "and" and adding "New York and" to "London". The third state substitutes "George H. Doran Company" for Hodder and Stoughton and lists only "New York".

The strange troika of issues of the first U.S. edition owes to Doran's relationship with Hodder & Stoughton and his newly minted status as a New York publisher in 1908. Doran had begun his publishing business in partnership with Hodder & Stoughton, who was a minority shareholder in Doran's namesake enterprise, and had just opened his American offices in New York in February 1908. (See Cohen, Vol. I, p.159, A27.4)

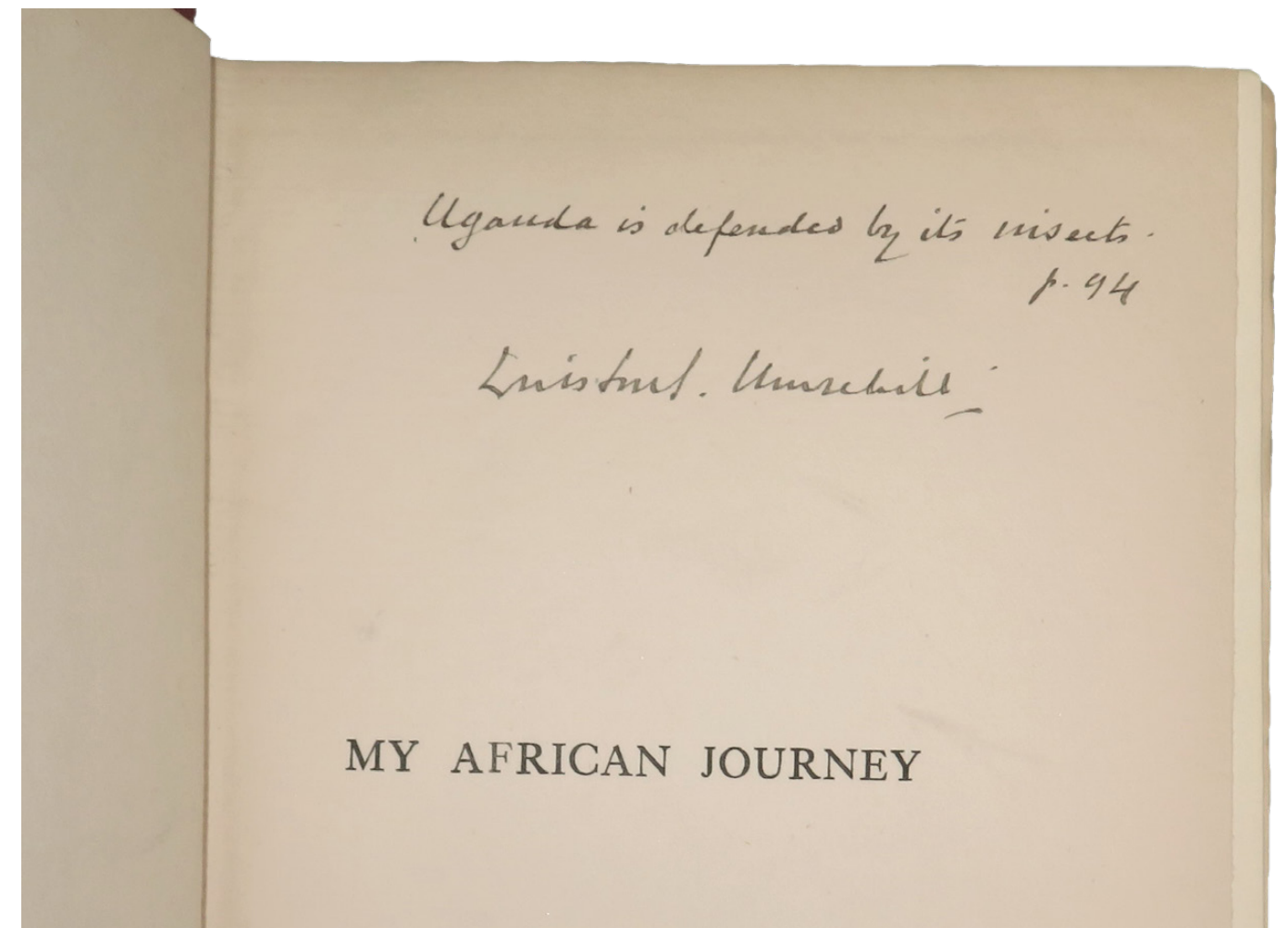
Uganda and its insects

Churchill's narrative portrayal of "The Kingdom of Uganda" is found at pages 86-103. When Churchill toured the country, Uganda had been a British protectorate for a decade and a half, since 1894. As might be expected, Churchill's discussion of Uganda is more nuanced than might be inferred from the quote he chose to append to his signature. In addition to citing its problems and plagues – insect and otherwise - Churchill also wrote of Uganda with lyrical appreciation: "Uganda is a fairy-tale. You climb up a railway instead of a beanstalk, and at the end there is a wonderful new world. The scenery is different, the vegetation is different, the climate is different, and most of all, the people are different from anything elsewhere to be seen in the whole range of Africa." (p.86)

Churchill's comment about the insects was an encapsulation of his broader observation about the negative physical and psychological effects of Uganda on its European inhabitants. More prophetic and prosaic, he noted "there seems to be a solemn veto placed upon the white man's permanent residence in these beautiful abodes." Uganda gained its formal independence on 9 October 1962, during the final years of Churchill's life and long parliamentary career, and notionally became a republic in 1963. Uganda has since struggled with depredations more severe than its insects, including civil strife, various flavors of autocracy, and AIDS.

Reference: Cohen A27.4, Woods/ICS A12(ab), Langworth p.83 [CBC #006938]

\$15,000 USD



LIBERALISM AND THE SOCIAL PROBLEM

Liberalism and the Social Problem

This is Churchill's third book of speeches (following *Mr. Brodrick's Army* and *For Free Trade*) and dates from his sojourn as an ardent reformer and a potent young political force in the Liberal Party. In 1904, Churchill quit the Conservative Party and joined the Liberals, beginning a dynamic chapter in his political career that saw him champion progressive causes and be branded a traitor to his class.

In 1909, when *Liberalism and the Social Problem* was published, Churchill, in his mid-30s, had just been promoted to a Cabinet position. His 21 speeches in this volume address a broad range of social issues still topical today, with the young Churchill trying to chart a progressive course between reactionary conservatism and radical socialism.

"Socialism seeks to pull down wealth; Liberalism seeks to raise up poverty.
Socialism would destroy private interests; Liberalism would preserve private interests
in the only way in which they can be safely and justly preserved,
namely, by reconciling them with public right.
Socialism would kill enterprise; Liberalism would rescue enterprise
from the trammels of privilege and preference.
Socialism assails the pre-eminence of the individual; Liberalism seeks, and shall seek
more in the future, to build up a minimum standard for the mass.
Socialism exalts the rule; Liberalism exalts the man.
Socialism attacks capital; Liberalism attacks monopoly."

This was a balance the Liberal Party ultimately failed to sustain. Churchill remained a member of the Liberal Party until their ruinous electoral defeat in the 1922 General Election. Churchill rejoined the Conservatives in 1924.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

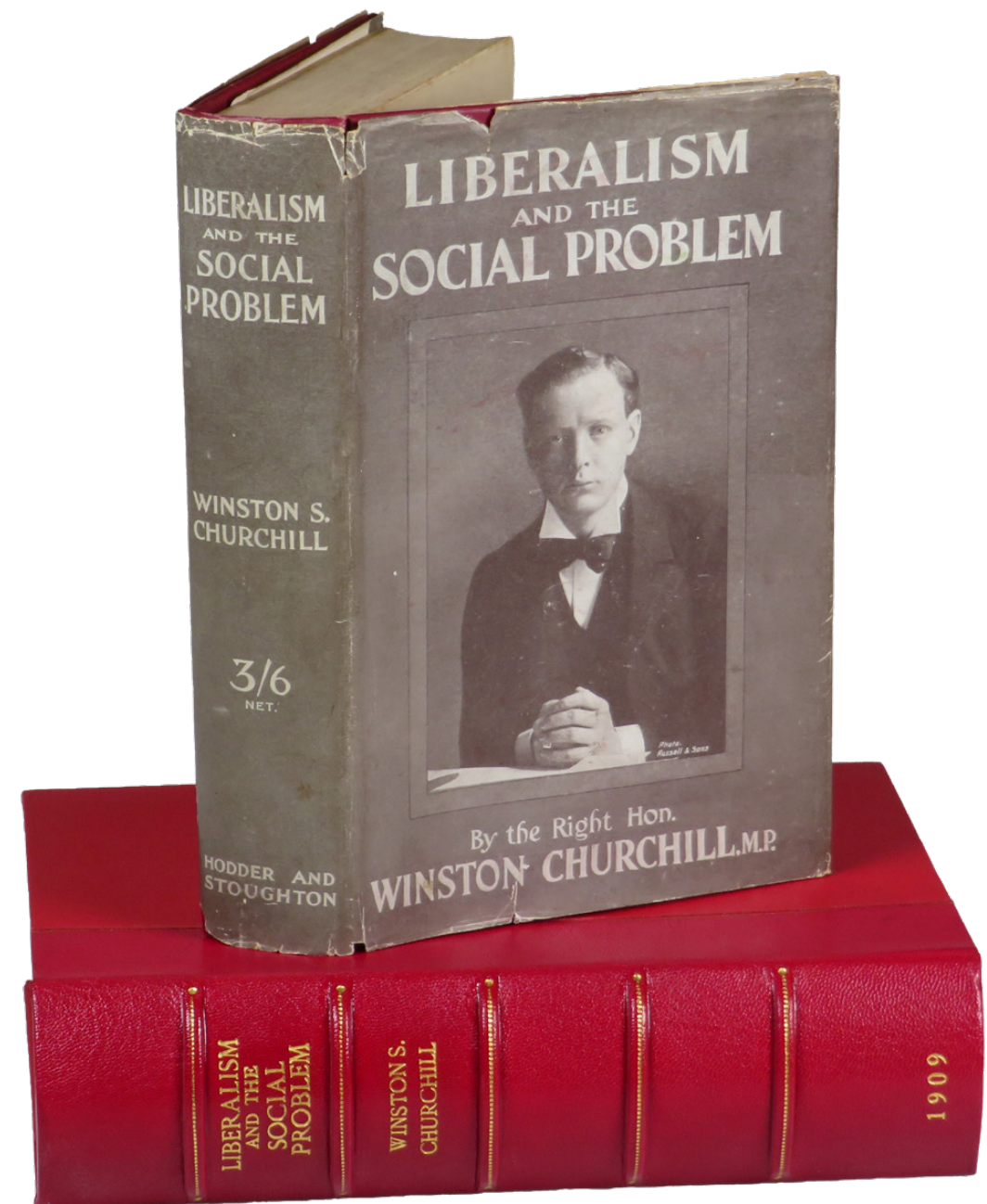
17

Liberalism and the Social Problem

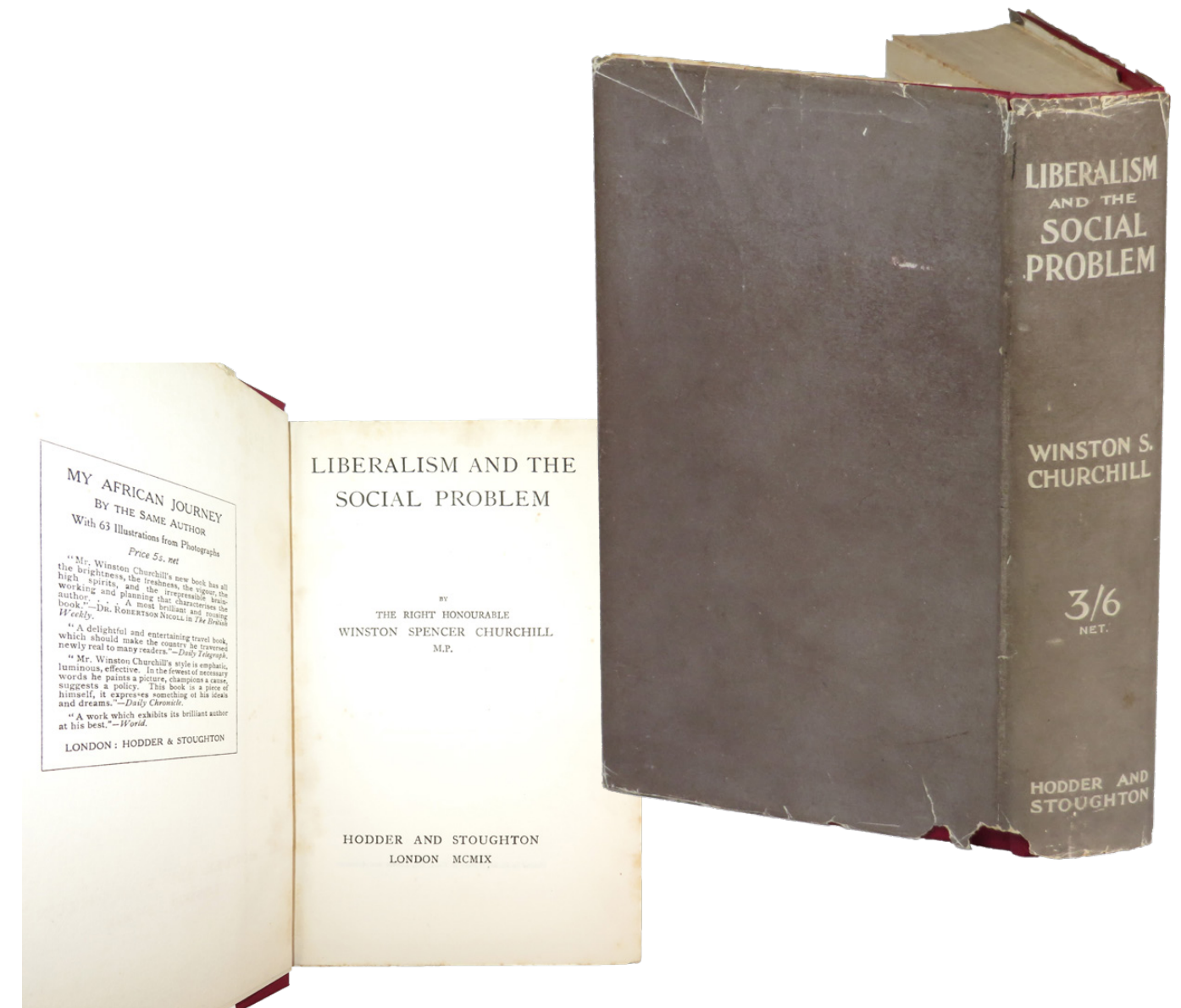
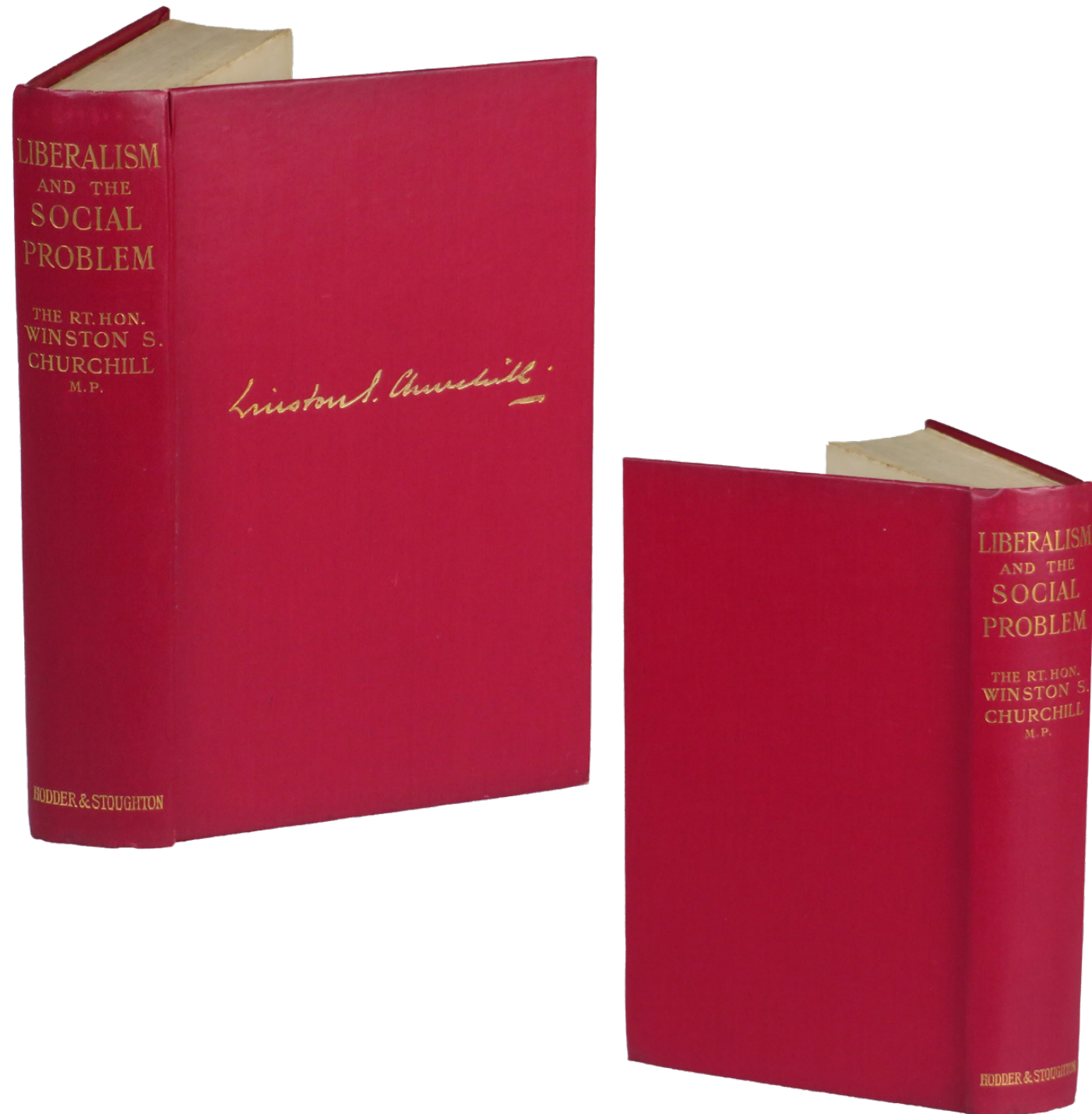
A magnificent first edition in the best-known surviving example of the extravagantly rare dust jacket
Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1909

This first edition, first printing of Churchill's third book of speeches (following *Mr. Brodrick's Army* and *For Free Trade*) is the best surviving copy, retaining the most complete known example of the extravagantly rare original dust jacket.

This first edition was bound in a deep red cloth stamped in gilt on the spine and featuring Churchill's gilt-stamped facsimile signature on the front cover. The illustrated dust jacket is a striking period piece, the front face printed gray on thin, white stock with the front face featuring a fuller version of the same photo of Churchill that would appear on the front cover of the wraps edition of *The People's Rights* published a year later. This is an iconic image, encapsulating the brashly confident young Cabinet Minister. Only two substantially complete copies of the dust jacket are known to survive. This is the best.



Condition of the volume itself is better than near fine. The binding is simply magnificent – square, clean, and tight with sharp corners and only a little wrinkling to the spine ends and a touch of shelf wear to extremities. The deep red hue of the binding and spine and front cover gilt are peerless, compellingly bright. The contents are internal bright with a crisp, unread feel and no previous owner names. The only minor detraction is spotting, primarily confined to the page edges, pastedowns, and the preliminary and terminal leaves. The endpapers show differential toning, corresponding to the dust jacket flaps. The page edges show mild age-toning, the top edge light shelf dust. Laid in at the rear pastedown we find a publisher's printed promotional sheet advertising two other contemporary titles – “*The Political Situation* by Dr. T. J. Macnamara, M.P.” and “*The People's Budget Explained* by The Right Honourable D. Lloyd George, M.P.”



The mere existence of the jacket eclipses condition details. Nonetheless, jacket condition is very good. The dust jacket is substantially complete, with only shallow chip losses to a maximum depth of .25 inch (.64 cm) at the lower right rear face, the lower spine, the upper front joint, the upper front face, and the flap fold extremities. The edges also show some short, closed tears and associated wrinkling at the spine head and upper rear corner. There is no color shift between the covers and spine and the jacket is clean. The jacket is fitted with a clear, removeable, archival cover.

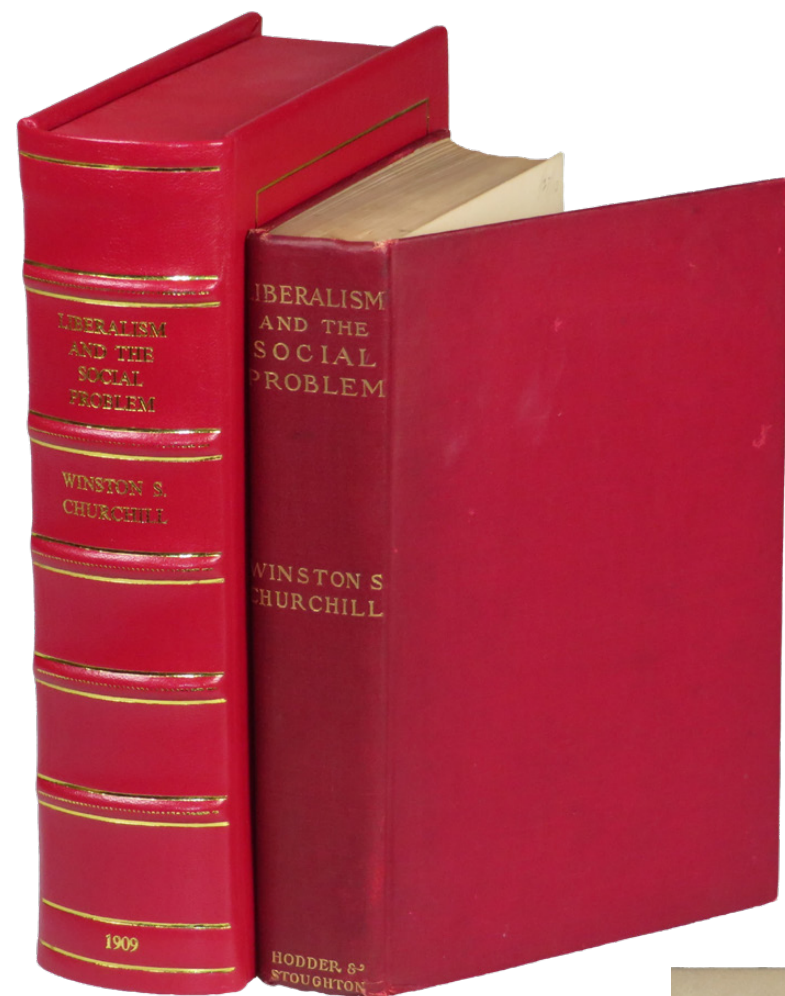
The book is housed in a handsome quarter Morocco goatskin Solander case by The Chelsea Bindery, the dark red leather hued complementary to the binding. The rounded spine features gilt-decorated raised bands and three gilt-printed compartments, title and author on the upper spine, the publication date of 1909 at the spine heel. A gilt rule transition demarcates the border with the red buckram-covered boards. The interior is felt-lined. Condition of the case is fine, with no appreciable wear or soiling.

Reference: Cohen A29.1.a, Woods/ICS A15(a), Langworth p.92. [CBC #007224]

\$24,000 USD

Liberalism and the Social Problem

A review copy of the elusive American first edition, owned by Albert Shaw, “a major figure in American periodical journalism for nearly half a century” *Hodder & Stoughton and George H. Doran Co., New York, 1910*

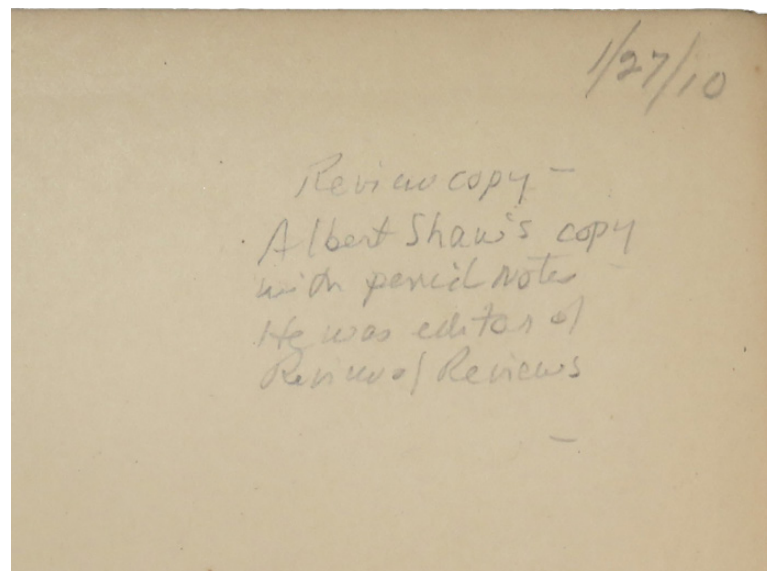


There were only 465 copies of this first U.S. first edition of Churchill's third book of speeches (following *Mr. Brodrick's Army* and *For Free Trade*), making it among the smallest issues of any Churchill first edition. This copy is noteworthy in two respects. First, it is scarce by definition, but doubly so in such strikingly good condition. Second, this was the review copy of “a major figure in American periodical journalism for nearly half a century.”

This U.S. First edition was actually printed and bound in England and supplied to the New York publisher, George Doran. The smooth, burgundy cloth binding with its thin boards (possibly to keep weight down for overseas shipment) did not wear well, so superior copies are elusive.

This copy is very good plus. The binding is square, tight, clean, and unfaded with bright spine gilt and sharp corners. We note minor shelf wear to the spine ends and corners, a faint vertical spine crease, and a few trivial blemishes to the front cover. The contents are impressively bright, with no spotting or appreciable age-toning. The untrimmed fore and bottom edges appear almost immaculate, the top edges show only minor shelf dust.

Pencil notation on the front free endpaper recto is dated “1/17/10” – likely the date the book was received – above further notation (also in pencil, though likely in a different hand) “Review copy - | Albert Shaw's copy | with pencil notes | He was editor of | Review of Reviews”. Margin notations are found within, at both pages of the Preface, as well as all 11 pages of the Introduction, and 38 pages of text (through p.152). Signatures from p.173 are uncut, indicating that the balance of the text was unread. A margin note on p.xv of the Introduction is signed “A.S.”



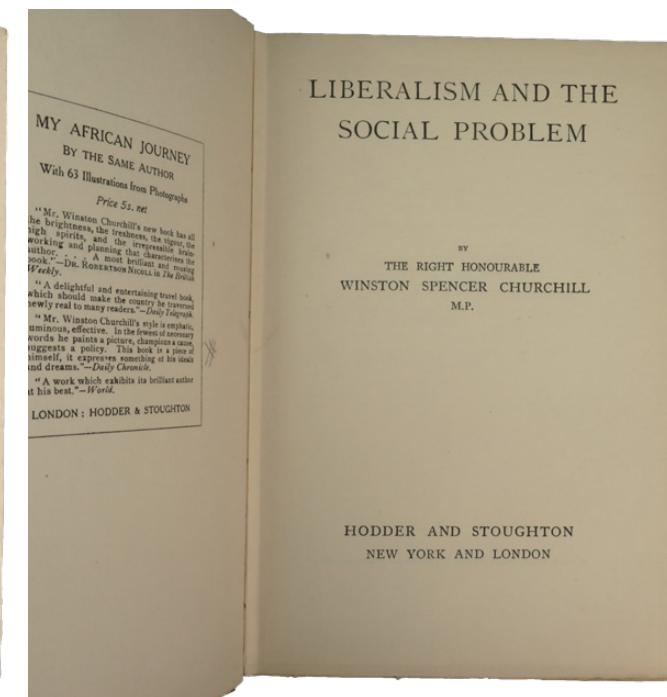
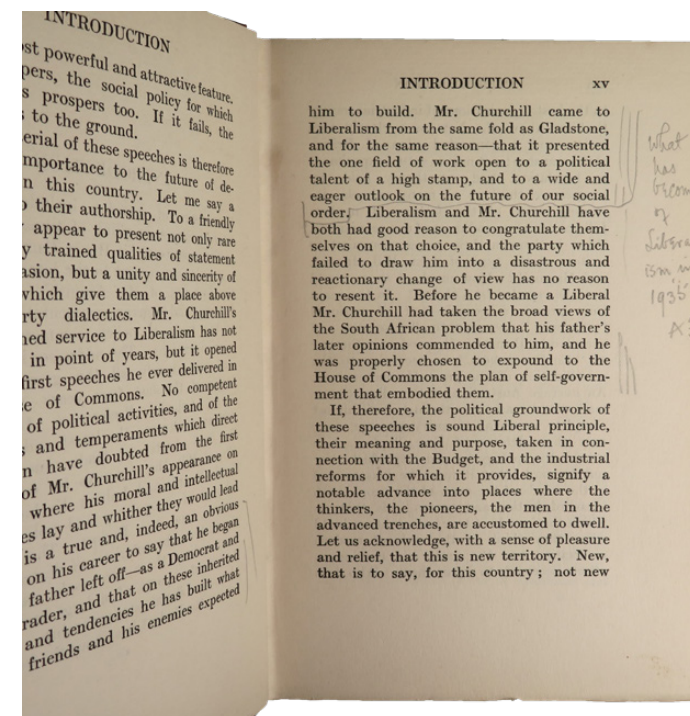
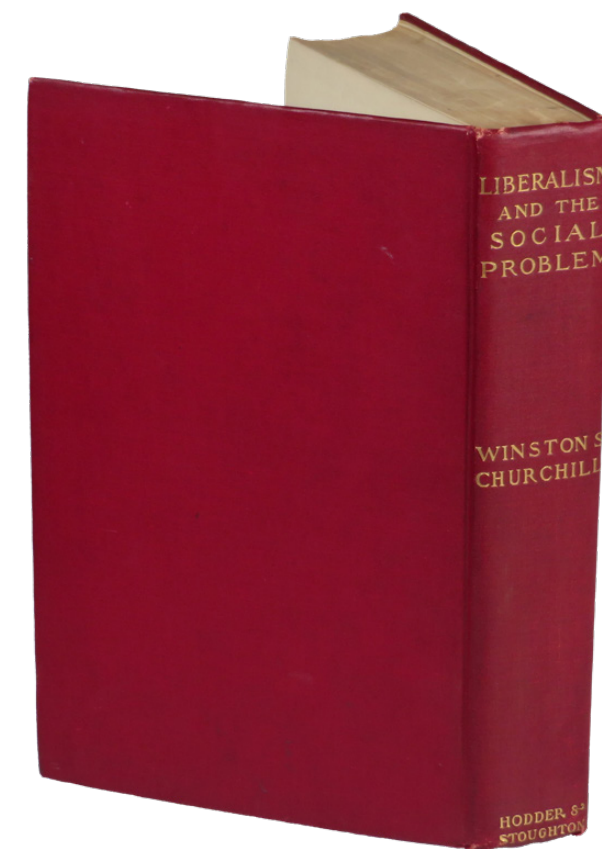
The book is housed in a full red Morocco goatskin Solander case featuring a rounded, hubbed spine, the spine bands gilt rule framed and gilt decorated, the covers with gilt rule borders, the interior lined with red velvet. Condition of the case is as-new, with no reportable wear, soiling, blemishes, or fading.

It is entirely appropriate that Albert Shaw (1857-1947) would have received *Liberalism and the Social Problem* for review. “As editor and publisher of the *Review of Reviews*, Albert Shaw was a major figure in American periodical journalism for nearly half a century.” (ANB) Early in his career, Shaw was affiliated with the *Grinnell Herald* and the *Minneapolis Tribune* before becoming the founding editor and publisher of the American *Review of Reviews*, based on the namesake British journal. Under his direction, the *Review of Reviews* “became a well-respected and widely circulated... digest of progressive thought and political analysis.”

Churchill remained a member of the Liberal Party until their ruinous electoral defeat in Britain's 1922 General Election. The Liberal Party's electoral implosion is posthumously echoed in Shaw's p.xv margin notation “What has become of Liberalism in 1935?”. Shaw evidently owned this copy for many years and referred to it more than once. By 1935, the world, and Churchill's political fortunes and alignments, had radically changed. Churchill had rejoined the Conservatives in 1924. Ten years after Shaw wrote that margin note, Churchill, the once-progressive young lion of the Liberal Party, would be Britain's wartime Prime Minister.

Reference: Reference: Cohen A29.2, Woods/ICS A15(ab), Langworth p.93 [CBC #007225]

\$2,000 USD



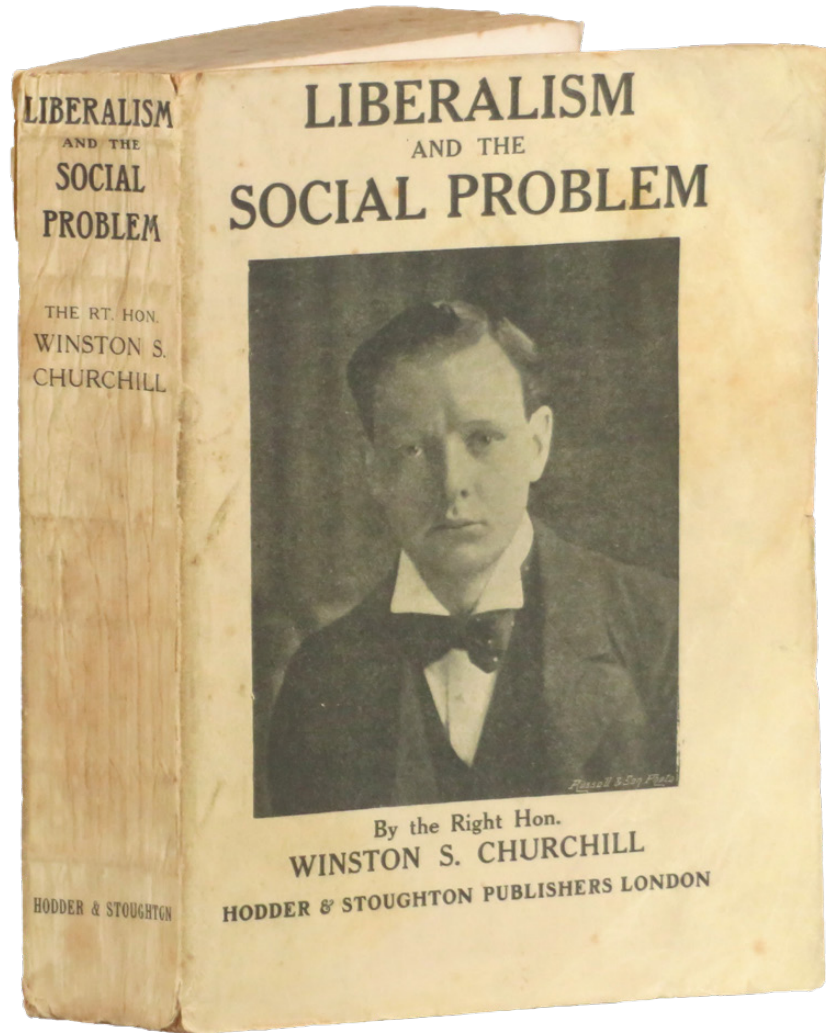
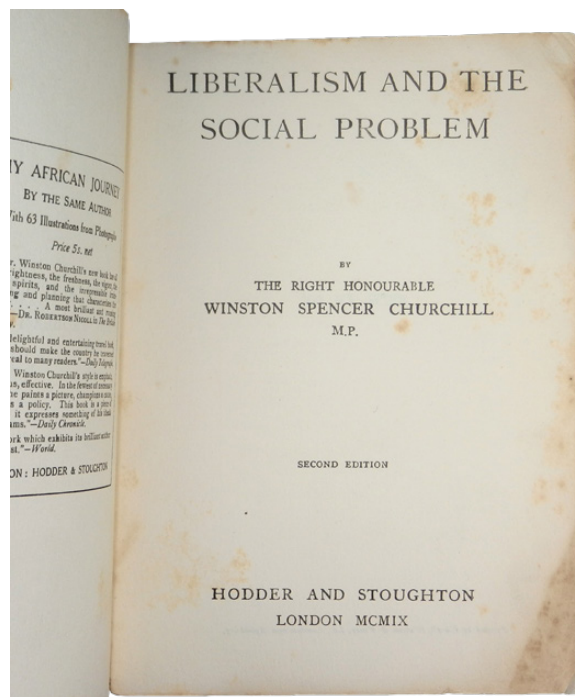
Liberalism and the Social Problem

The extraordinarily rare wraps issue of the first edition,
one of only two surviving copies known
Hodder and Stoughton, Ltd., London, 1909

This is a truly exciting find for collectors and bibliographers. This is one of only two known surviving copies of the previously unknown first edition, second and final printing, softcover (wraps) issue of Churchill's *Liberalism and the Social Problem*.

The idea of a previously unidentified issue of a book-length work in the Churchill canon is remarkable. Churchill is one of the most studied and best documented figures of the twentieth century. And the bibliography of his published works is among the most impressively thorough bibliographic efforts of which we are aware. Nonetheless, until we discovered copies in 2010 and 2017, no wraps issue was known - or even presumed - for *Liberalism and the Social Problem*.

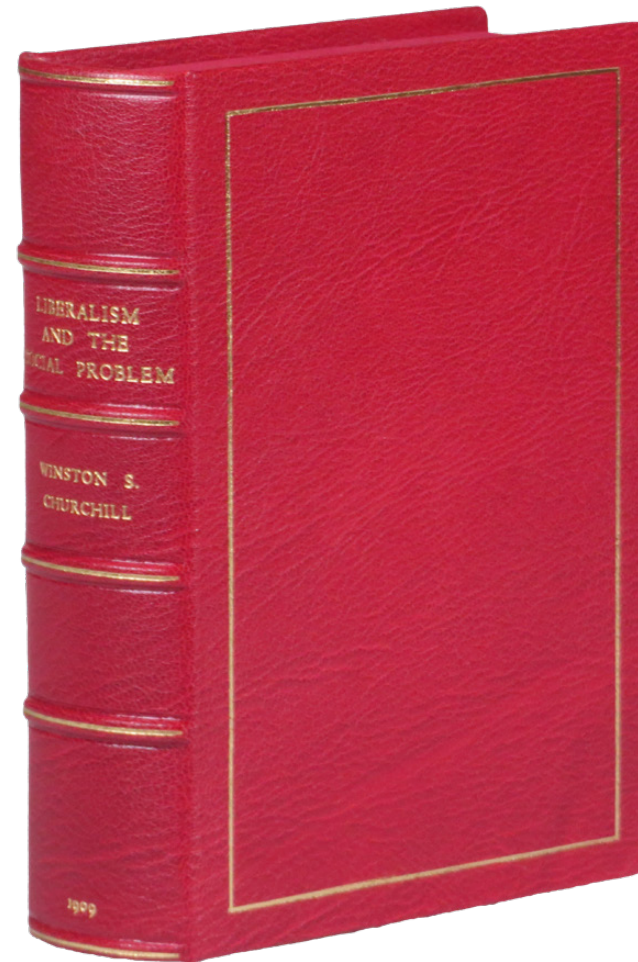
This second copy was discovered in northeastern England in 2017, and the other in Glasgow in 2010. Despite the fact that only two copies are known, surprisingly, they differ. The rear cover of the copy discovered in 2010 lists three Hodder & Stoughton "Pamphlets for Distribution". By contrast, the rear cover of this copy only features two lines of print specifying the printer and publisher. Instead, a terminal leaf following p.414 advertises the three aforementioned pamphlets on the verso and two additional works – *The People's Budget Explained* by



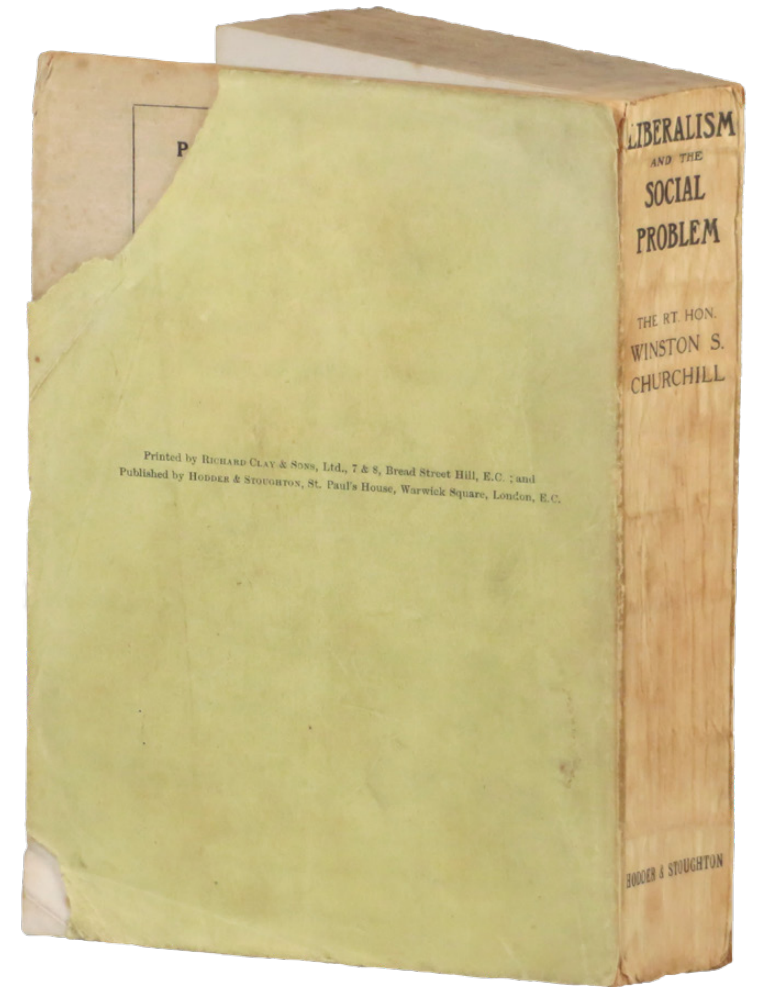
David Lloyd George and *The Political Situation* by T. J. Macnamara – on the recto. We speculate that this copy – which is the more complete and better-preserved of the two known – was also the first issued. The presumption is that the consolidation of advertisements onto the rear cover was done to save the printers and binders a step.

The front cover of this wraps issue of *Liberalism and the Social Problem* perfectly encapsulates the brash young Cabinet Minister with an iconic image. The front cover features the same striking half-tone photograph of the author found on the dust jackets (only two substantially complete dust jackets are known to survive) of the hardcover issue, with the title appearing above the image and author's name and publisher appearing below. The spine prints the title and author at the top and publisher at the bottom.

This wraps issue measures 6.75 x 4.875 inches (17.2 x 12.4 cm), in contrast to the 7.75 x 5.375 inches (19.7 x 13.7 cm) dimensions of the hardcover issue. The text block was obviously trimmed for this wraps issue. The contents are identical to those of the hardcover first edition, second printing, and bulk the same 1.5 inches thick, the only difference being the omission of the endpapers and addition of the terminal advertisement leaf following p. 414. Per Churchill Bibliographer Ronald Cohen, just 1,000 second printing copies (erroneously designated "Second Edition" on the title page) were printed by the publisher prior to the end of the 1909-10 fiscal year. This extravagantly rare wraps issue was issued from an unknown, but doubtless small, subset of these 1,000 sets of sheets.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



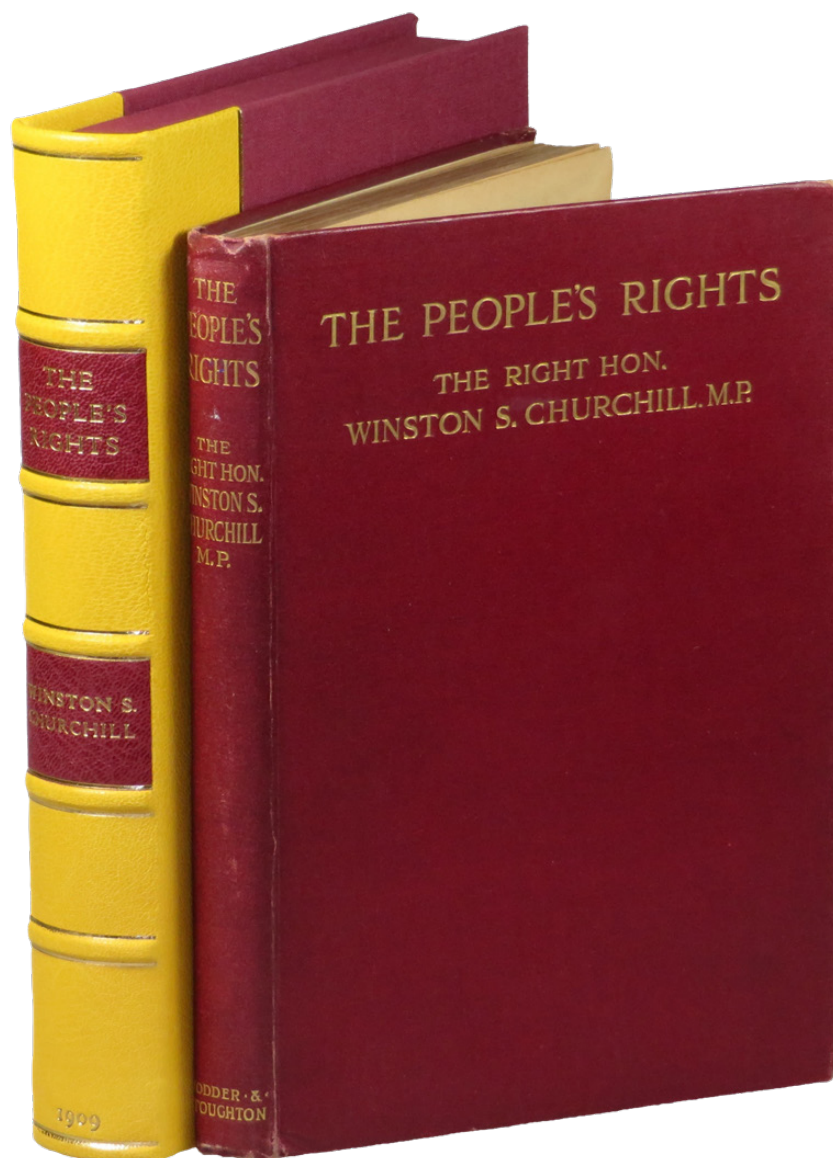
Condition is very good - better than one might expect for a perishable paperback issue of a political book by a young M.P. published in very small numbers over 100 years ago. The thin paper wraps are present and remain attached and the entire binding remains sound, square and tight with only minor concavity to the spine. The front wrap and spine are almost entirely intact, lightly soiled with creasing and wear to extremities. All of the print and the striking front cover portrait of Churchill are complete and clearly legible. Only the rear cover shows appreciable loss, a roughly 1.75 x 1.5 inch (4.5 x 3.8 cm) x triangular loss at the upper left corner and a .5 x .375 inch (1.3 x .95 cm) loss at the lower left corner. There is also a 1.25 inch (3.2 cm) closed tear at the upper rear joint. The center rear cover print remains fully intact and clearly legible. The contents are surprisingly bright. We find no previous ownership marks. Spotting is primarily confined to the prelims and page edges. The first and final leaves show mild creasing to the corners. The volume is protected within a full red Morocco goatskin Solander case featuring rounded spine with raised, gilt-ruled bands, gilt rule-framed covers, red cloth and paper-lined interior. Condition of the Solander case is pristine.

Reference: See Cohen A29.1.b [CBC #004495]

\$6,500 USD

The People's Rights

One of only 100 hardcover issues of the first edition
Hodder and Stoughton, Ltd., London, 1909



This is among the rarest Churchill first editions – the first edition, only printing of *The People's Rights* in the hardcover binding – one of only 100 bound thus. Moreover, this copy is a compellingly clean, complete, and unrestored survivor.

Condition is very good plus, particularly for the edition, and quite elusive thus. The cloth is square and tight with no warp or lean. The binding is surprisingly bright and unsullied, the spine color quite strong with only the slightest sunning, the gilt print on both front cover and spine vividly bright. Light wear is substantially confined to the corners, joints, and spine ends. The contents were printed on cheap pulp paper which always browns and becomes brittle. These contents are toned, as usual, but less so than typical and notably clean. Moreover, we find none of the usual edge chipping, no spotting, no previous ownership marks, and no cracking at the gutters. The top edge gilt is still atypically bright given the pulp paper to which it was applied. Improbably, given the tiny number produced, there are two identified states of the hardcover issue of the first edition, differentiated only by whether p.71 is mispaginated as “1”. This copy does not have the p.71 mispagination, but does have a single Appendix and Index affiliated with first state wraps-bound copies, rather than the second state, wherein a second Appendix replaced the Index. The book is protected within a custom quarter leather solander case. Evoking both the wraps and hardcover issues of the first edition; the case features a chrome yellow Morocco goatskin hubbed spine with maroon labels over burgundy cloth boards, the inside lined with complementary marbled paper.

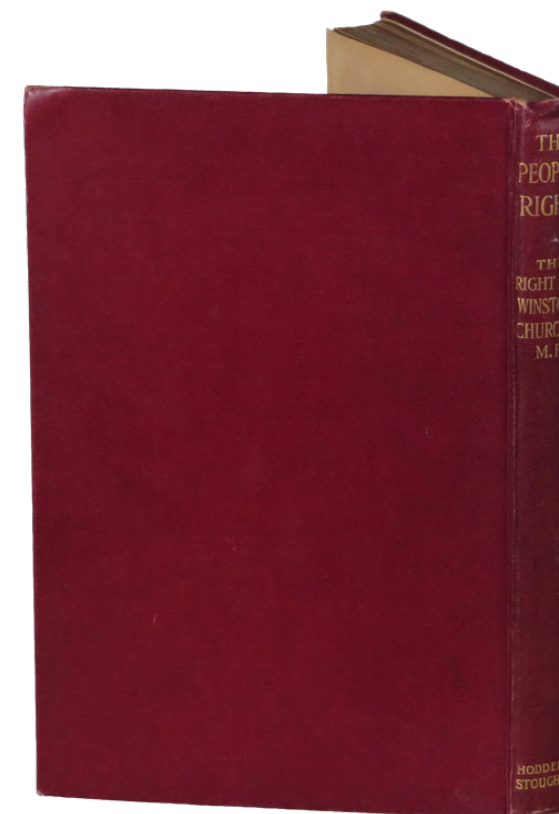
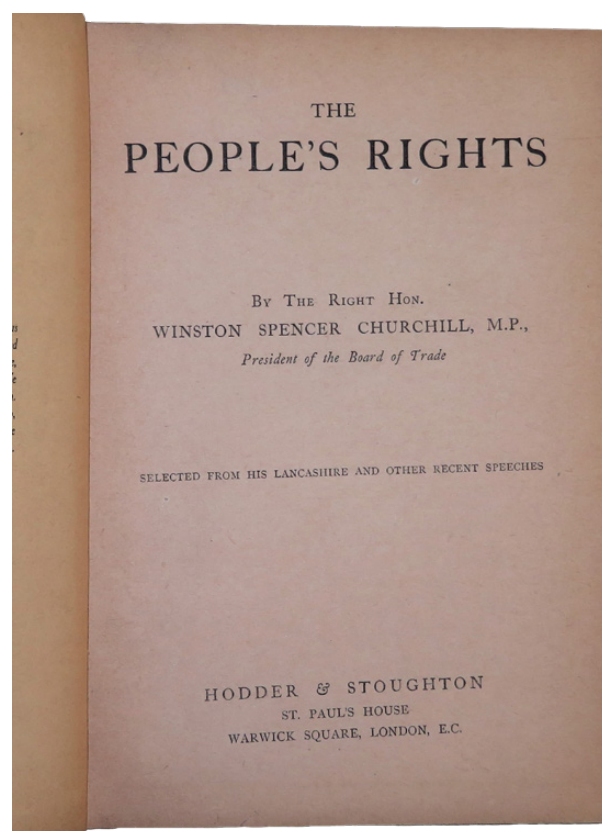
In 1904, Churchill quit the Conservative Party and joined the Liberals, beginning a dynamic chapter in his political career that saw him champion progressive causes and be branded a traitor to his class. In late 1909, when *The People's Rights* was published, Winston Churchill was a powerful political force and a member of the Cabinet. From December 3-11, 1909, Churchill was on the campaign trail for the Liberals. *The People's Rights* is a distillation of these nine days of speeches, criticizing the House of Lords (which had rejected the Liberal Government's budget, thus precipitating the campaign) and championing Free Trade, a graduated income tax, luxury tax, and surtaxes on unearned income. Churchill's efforts were not wasted; the election gave the Liberals a slim majority and passage of their budget.

The first edition is not only an important work, but also the only edition published in Churchill's lifetime. Nearly all first edition copies were bound in bright, chrome yellow paper wraps (with a halftone photo of Churchill on the cover) and printed on cheap, pulp paper. For obvious reasons, they proved perishable; surviving copies are scarce and desirable, even when aged and worn. However, considerably scarcer is this publisher's original hardcover binding. As documented in Ronald Cohen's excellent Bibliography, “100 sets of sheets were bound on 20 December 1909”. The hardcover issue is not only quite scarce, but was also bound “two weeks before the publication of the paper wrappers issue.” Cohen wrote “The cloth copies may have been available in the last few days of 1909.” (Cohen, Volume I, page 177). Lacking evidence, Cohen left the official publication date as 1910. We have previously encountered a copy that settles the question, featuring an owner name and “Dec 1909” date. Hence, we date hardcover issues of the first edition to 1909.

Churchill's first bibliographer, Frederick Woods, was able to examine only a worn and faded copy and reported the binding color as “cherry-red cloth, flecked with pink”. We have noted two slightly different cloth variants - a cherry red cloth as well as a deeper, burgundy-red. This copy is the deeper red cloth variant.

Reference: Cohen A31.1.b, Woods/ICS A16(a), Langworth p.97. [CBC #005771]

\$10,000 USD

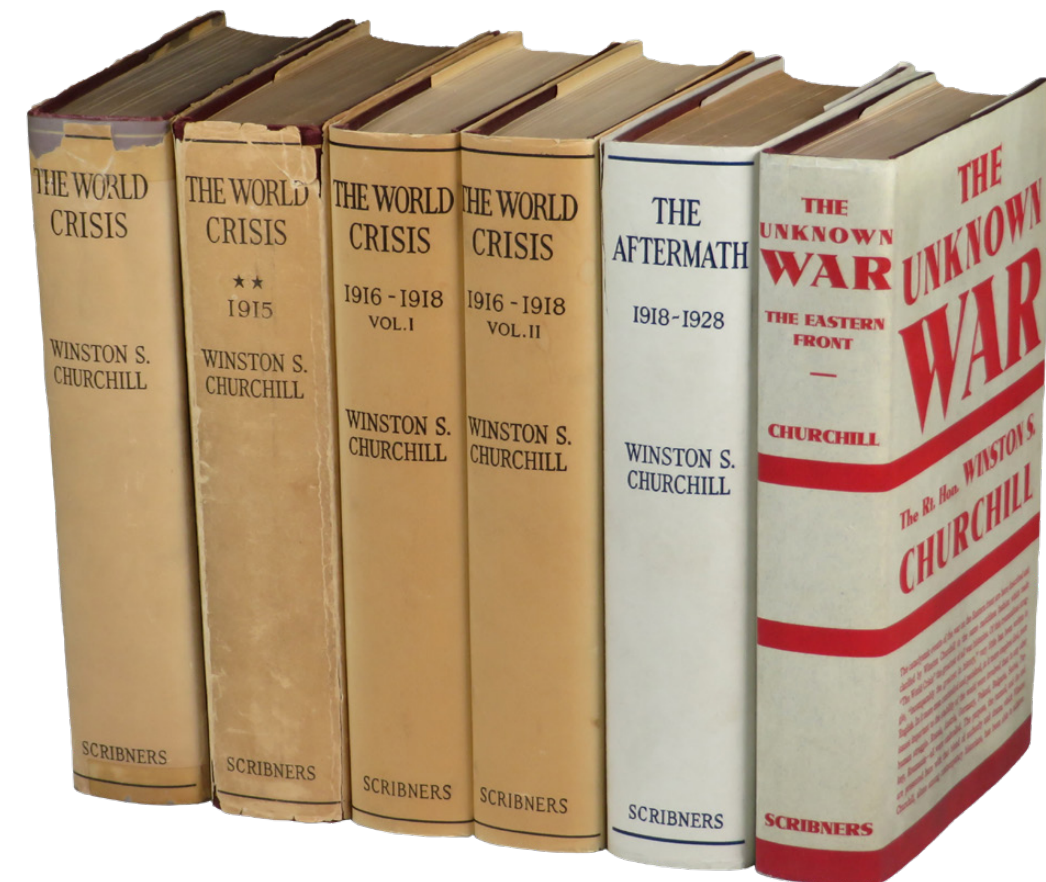


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The World Crisis

A full, six-volume set of first edition, first printings, in first printing dust jackets, including the extravagantly rare 1911-1914 jacket and the original 1916-1918 publisher-issued slipcase

Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1923-1931



This is a full, first edition, first printing, jacketed set of Winston Churchill's history of the First World War. Notably, this set includes the extravagantly rare first printing 1911-1914 dust jacket. This is unequivocally the best full set in first printing dust jackets of which we are aware. Consider it a virtual certainty that no better set exists.

A quarter of a century before the Second World War endowed him with lasting fame, Churchill played a uniquely critical, controversial, and varied role in the "War to end all wars". Then, being Churchill, he wrote about it. *The World Crisis* was originally published in six volumes between 1923 and 1931, the first four volumes spanning the war years 1911-1918, and the final two volumes covering the postwar years 1918-1928 (*The Aftermath*) and the Eastern theatre (*The Eastern Front*). This U.S. edition preceded its British counterpart, rendering it the true first edition.

This set - with a 1911-1914 first printing dust jacket, a 1915 first printing dust jacket, and 1916-1918 volumes in the publisher's slipcase - is a singular opportunity for collectors. Only three surviving first issue dust jackets for the 1911-1914 volume are known - making these jackets among the scarcest in the Churchill canon. In this case, existence eclipses condition; none of these three known examples are complete, each suffering loss and wear. This is definitively the best of the three.

THE WORLD CRISIS

The World Crisis

The World Crisis is Churchill's history of the First World War, in which he played such a critical, controversial, and varied role.

The work was originally published in six books between 1923 and 1931. The first four books comprise the history of the war years 1911-1918, and were published between 1923 and 1927. Two supplemental volumes followed in 1929 and 1931. These were *The Aftermath*, covering the years 1918-1928, and *The Eastern Front*, which Churchill initially proposed as "separate from but supplementary to our five volume history", intended to describe in greater detail "the course of events in the Eastern theatre" (Cohen, Vol. I, p.234).

Churchill was in a special position to write the history of the First World War, which nearly cost him both his political and corporeal lives. In October 1911, aged 36, Winston Churchill was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty. He entered the post with the brief to change war strategy and ensure the readiness of the world's most powerful navy. He did both. Even Secretary of State for War Lord Kitchener, with whom Churchill had been variously at odds for nearly two decades, told Churchill on his final day as First Lord "Well, there is one thing at any rate they cannot take from you. The Fleet was ready." (*The World Crisis*: 1915, p.391)

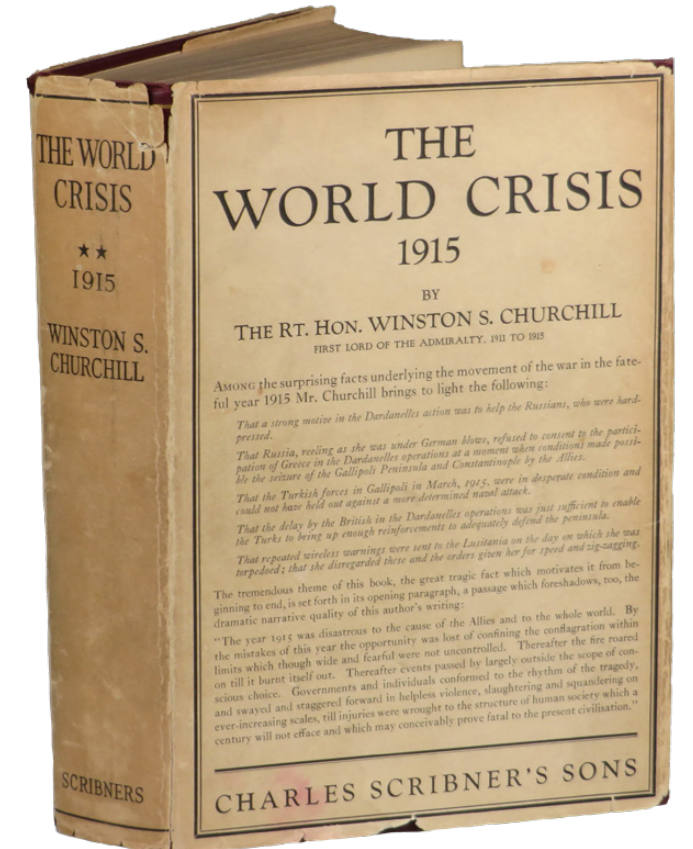
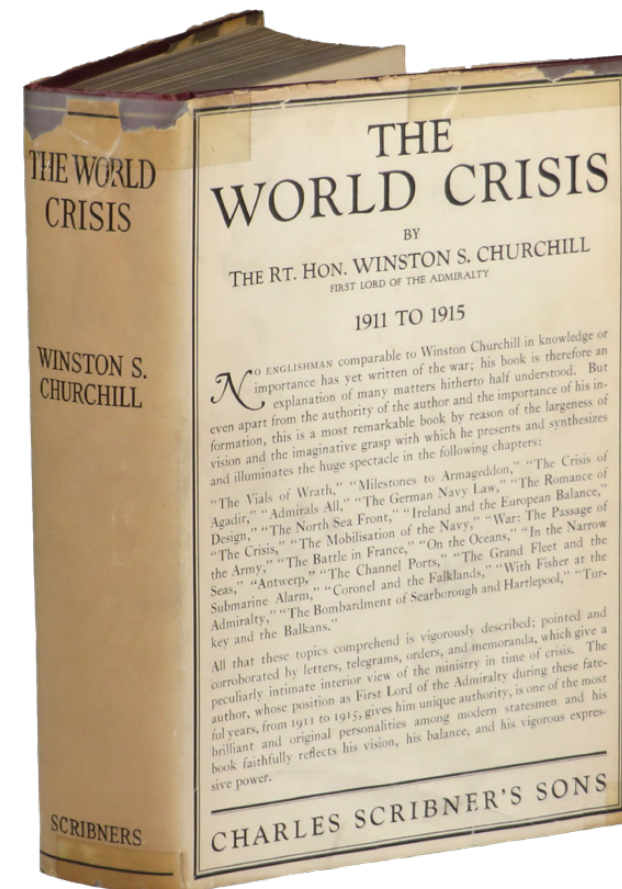
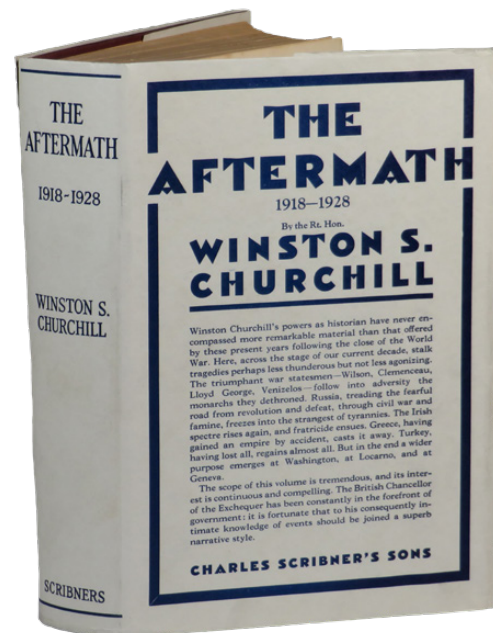
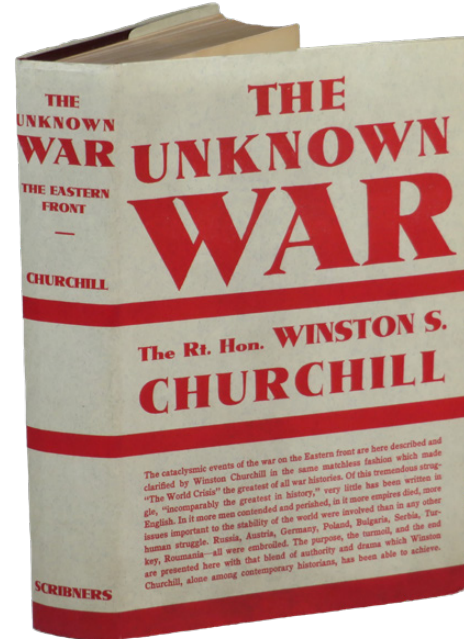
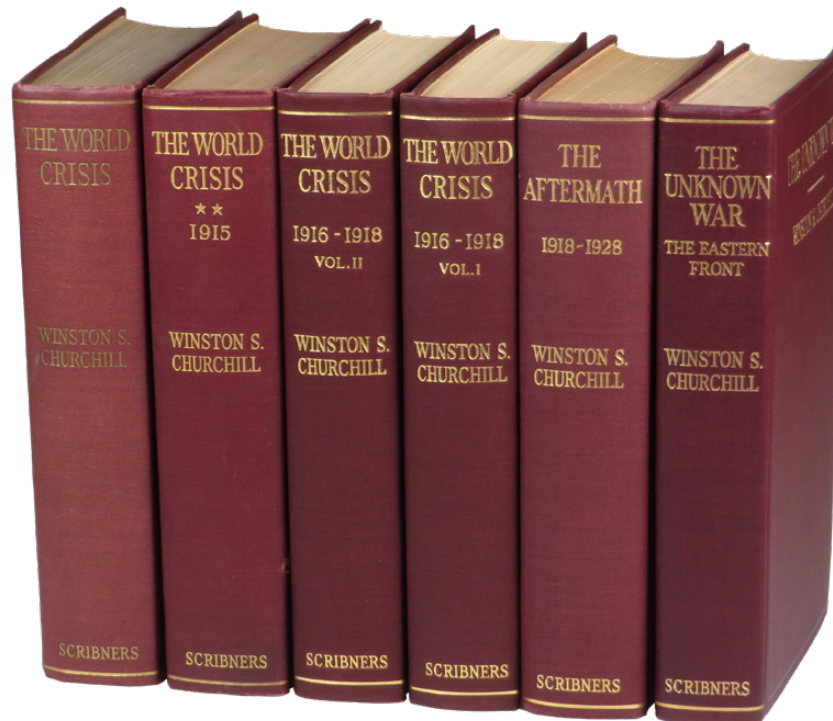
Nonetheless, when Churchill advocated successfully for a naval campaign in the Dardanelles, a convergence of factors sealed his political fate. After the failure in the Dardanelles and the slaughter at Gallipoli, Churchill was scapegoated by his peers, sacrificed by his Prime Minister, and hounded by the Conservatives. He was forced to resign, leaving the Admiralty in May 1915.

Years later, Churchill's wife, Clementine, recalled to Churchill's official biographer: "I thought he would never get over the Dardanelles; I thought he would die of grief." (Gilbert, Vol. III, p.473) By November, Churchill resigned even his nominal Cabinet posts to spend the rest of his political exile as a lieutenant colonel leading a battalion in the trenches at the Front.

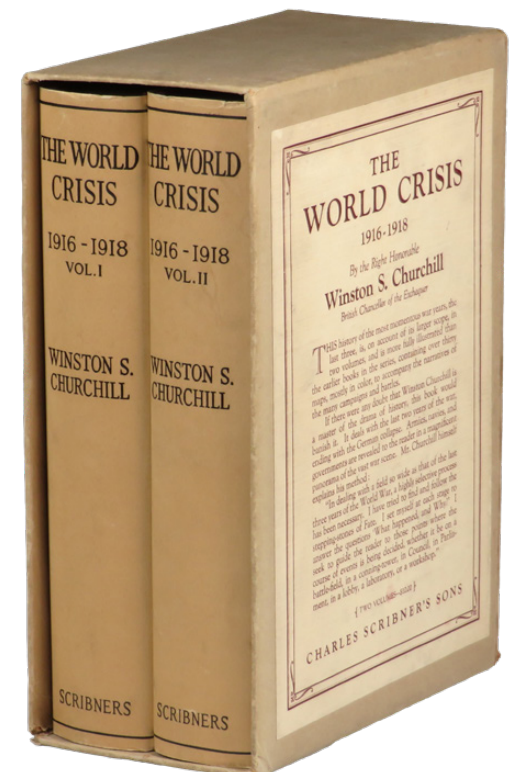
By the war's end, Churchill was exonerated by the Dardanelles Commission and rejoined the Government, but the stigma of the Dardanelles lingered. Churchill thus had more than just literary and financial compulsion to write his history.

Nearly a quarter of a century after he was forced to resign from the Admiralty and nearly a decade after he published the sixth and final volume of *The World Crisis* Churchill famously returned to the Admiralty in September 1939, the position from which he ascended to his storied Second World War premiership in May 1940.

This 1911-1914 dust jacket is unclipped with the original \$6.50 price intact, more complete than the other two known examples, and surprisingly clean and bright, with only light, uniform spine toning. The only loss of note are chips to a maximum depth of .5 inch (1.3 cm) at the spine head. Other loss is fractional, confined to the spine heel, upper edges, and flap fold corners. There are short, closed tears and associated wrinkling to the bottom edge of the front face, though no associated loss. The chief aesthetic defect is clear tape reinforcement at the spine ends, flap fold corners, and part of the adjacent upper edges. Though the jacket steals the proverbial show, the book beneath is also remarkable. This first printing of this first volume proved particularly prone to both extreme sunning and blackening of the gilt. Since jacketed copies of the first printing are virtually unknown, so too are truly fine copies of the first edition, first printing. This copy retains remarkable color owing to the dust jacket, and is square, clean, and tight with sharp corners and only minimal scuffing. The contents remain crisp, clean, bright, and tight, with no spotting, mild dust soiling to the top edges, and an illustrated bookplate affixed to the front pastedown.



The balance of this set's dust jackets are also eminently collector worthy, even if overshadowed by the 1911-1914 prodigy. The first printing 1915 jacket – second in scarcity only to its 1911-1914 counterpart – is differentiated from the second printing by subtle differences in the type and rules (meaning that some collectors who think that they own a first printing dust jacket do not). The 1915 jacket retains the original “\$6.50” front flap price. We note only fractional chipping to the spine and flap fold extremities, short closed tears with associated wrinkling, and modest toning and scuffing to the spine. Intriguingly, the front flap features both inked notation in Portuguese (“18 de junho de 1944”) and the inked name “W. C. GARBEE, JR.” The 1916-1918 jackets are quite impressive, unclipped, the “\$10.00 Two Volumes” prices intact, and entirely complete, with no loss or tears and mild, even spine toning. *The Aftermath* jacket is simply magnificent, better than near fine – spectacularly bright and entirely complete. Of course, the original “\$5.00” front flap price is intact. The sole defect is a closed tear at the upper rear joint that disappears beneath the dust jacket protector. Like *The Aftermath*, the dust jacket for *The Unknown War* is magnificent and – seemingly impossible for a nearly century-old dust jacket – truly fine, meaning entirely complete, immaculately clean, and improbably bright, the original “\$5.00” front flap price, of course, intact. This jacket could pass for as-new, suffering only the slightest wrinkling to a few extremities. All six dust jackets are protected beneath clear, removable, archival covers.

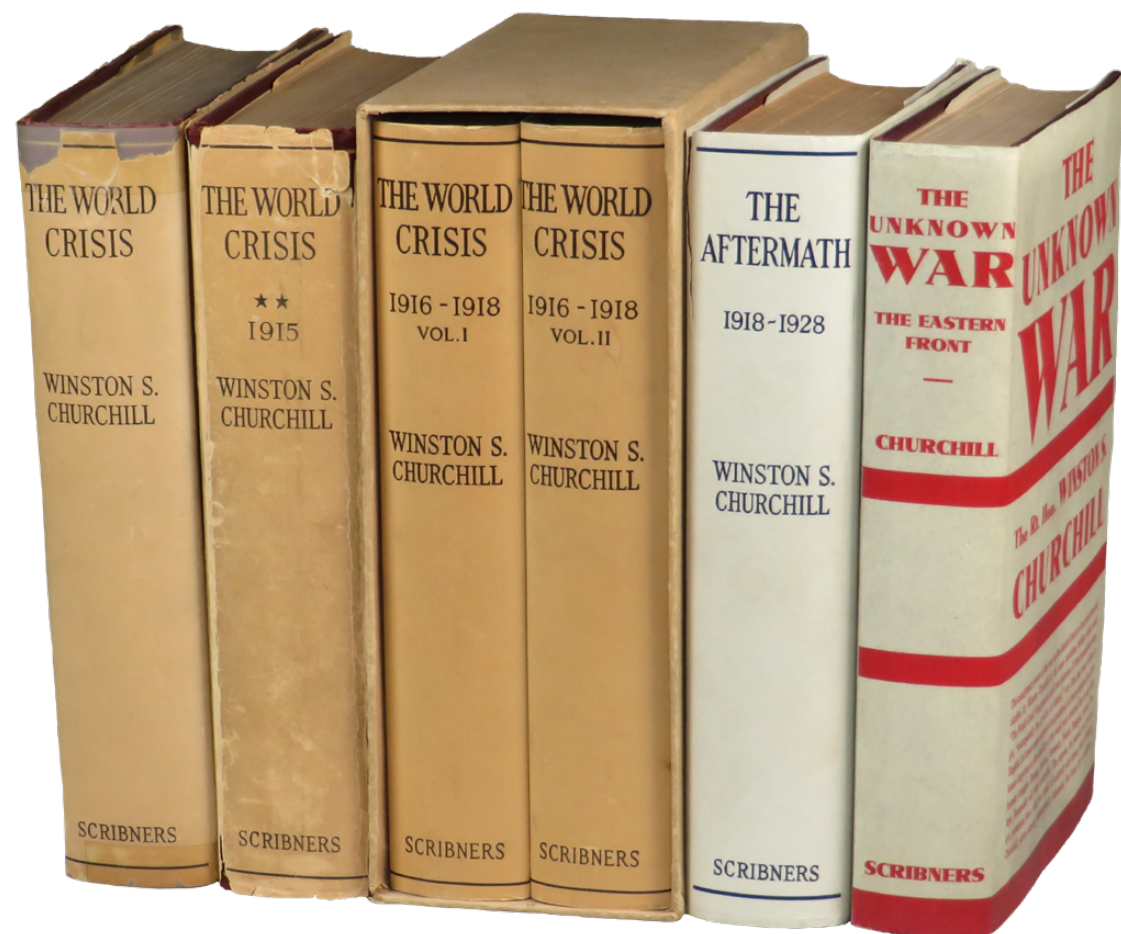


The bindings of the balance of the set are beautifully bright and clean, each in near-fine or better condition, with compellingly bright, tight, clean, and, and sharp-cornered bindings that are exclusive to the best jacketed copies. The 1916-1918 volumes, which have been protected by their slipcase, are virtually as-new. The sole exterior defect we find is a nick to the cloth of the lower front joint of the 1915 volume. The contents are also exceptionally clean. Spotting is confined to only a scattered few spots to the top edges of *The Aftermath*. The only ownership mark we find is a faint, cryptic ink-stamp “9J376” on the final free endpaper verso of *The Aftermath*.

The publisher originally issued the two 1916-1918 volumes as a boxed set in a cardboard slipcase. Of the few surviving slipcases we have seen, some have three pasted labels, some only two. A large, 8.25 x 5.75 inches (21 x 14.6 cm) label printed dark red on ivory on the right side of the slipcase features an extensive blurb about Churchill and the work. A smaller label on the upper spine of the slipcase, likewise printed dark red on ivory, measures 4 x 3.25 inches (10.2 x 8.3 cm) and features the title, author, and publisher. An orange promotional label on the lower portion of the slipcase spine measuring 3.75 x 3 inches (9.5 x 7.6 cm) advertises Churchill's preceding *World Crisis* volumes. This slipcase features all three labels and is the cleanest example we have seen, with only mild soiling and light wear to extremities.

Reference: Cohen A69.1(I).a, A69.1(II).b, A69.1(III-1&2).a, A69.1(IV).a, A69.1(V).a. [CBC #007226]

\$24,000 USD



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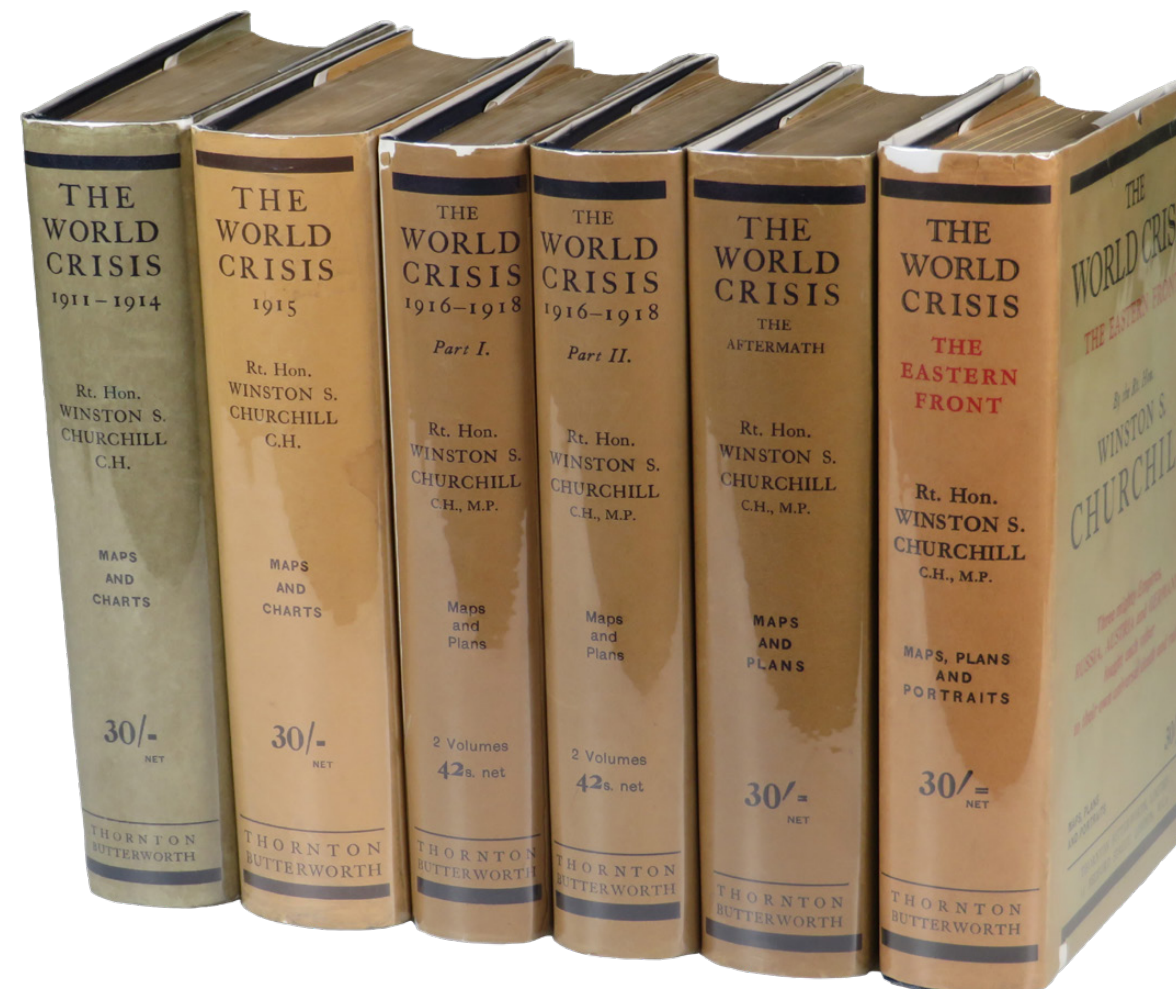
The World Crisis

A magnificent full set of six British first edition, first printings, in dust jackets, each volume housed in a quarter-Morocco Solander Thornton Butterworth Limited, London, 1923-1931

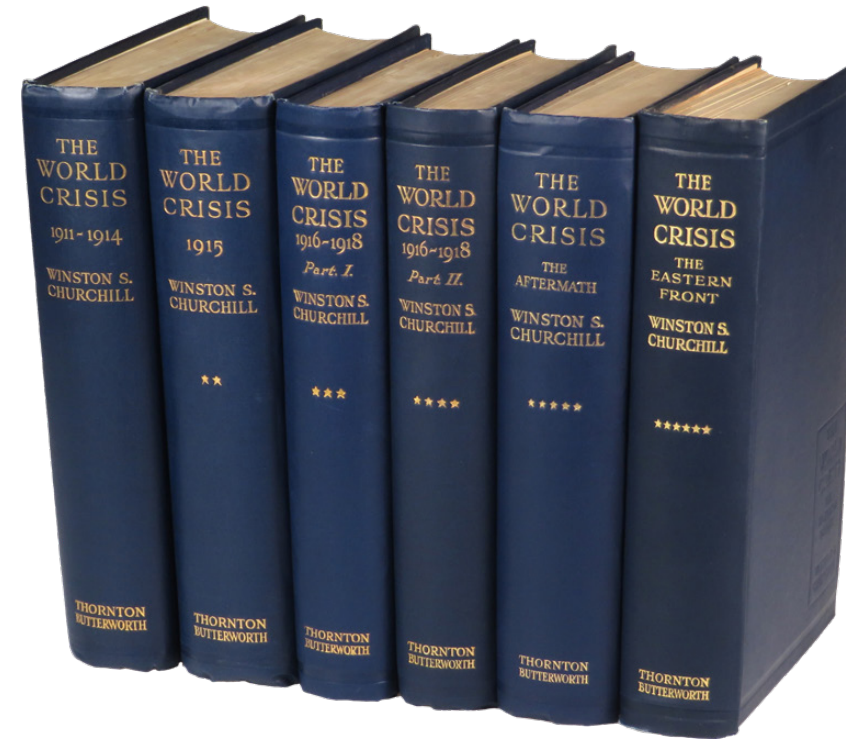
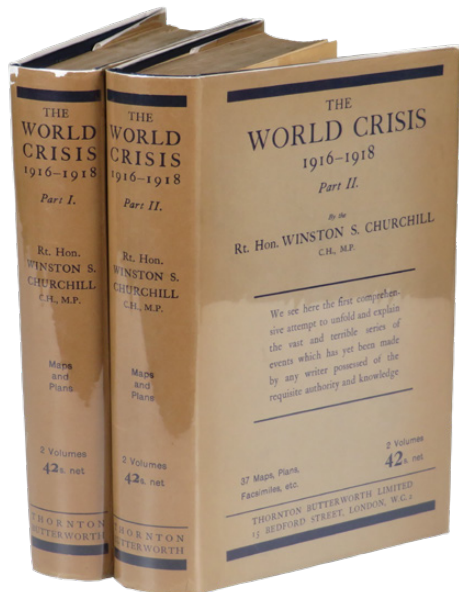
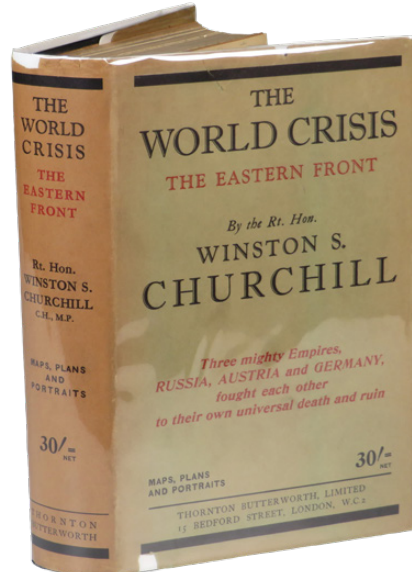
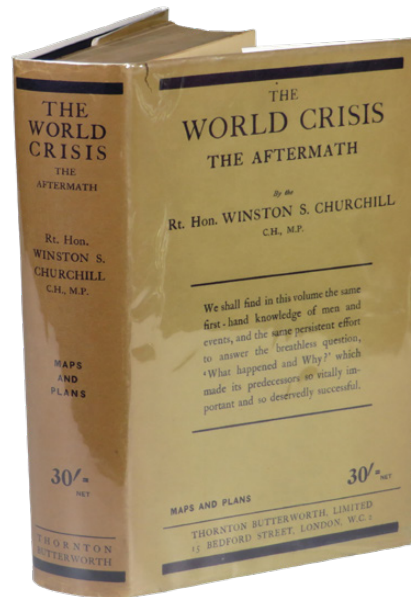
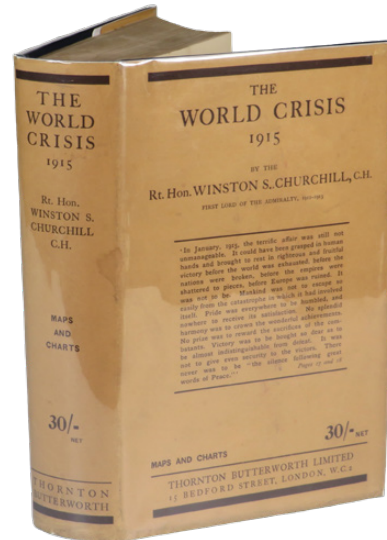
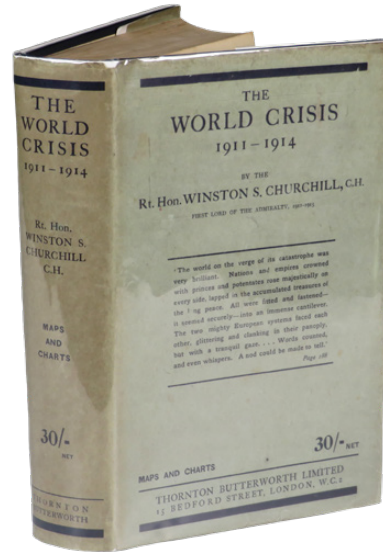
This is a magnificent, jacketed, six-volume British first edition, first printing set of Winston Churchill's history of the First World War, in which he played such a critical, controversial, and varied role.

Many consider this British edition of *The World Crisis* aesthetically superior to its American counterpart, with its larger volumes and shoulder notes summarizing the subject of each page. Unfortunately, the smooth navy cloth of the British first editions proved quite susceptible to wear and blistering, and the contents prone to spotting and toning. When the books are protected by their original dust jackets, of course they tend to fare better, but that is seldom the case, because when these volumes were published, between 1923 and 1931, booksellers often discarded the dust jackets. Even those spared by booksellers often did not survive.

Full sets thus, in dust jackets, are an elusive prize. But this particular set is the very best we have ever offered, featuring fine volumes in extraordinarily bright, clean, and complete dust jackets.

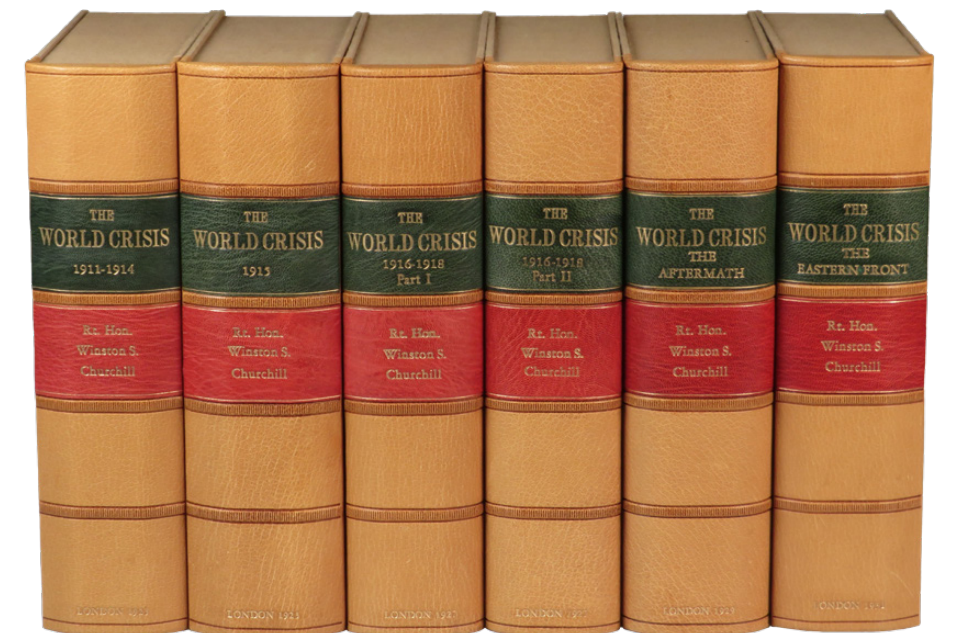


The 1911-1914 jacket is the first issue, with a blank rear face that does not advertise subsequent volumes in the series. The greenish-blue paper retains its distinctive hue and the jacket shows only fractional loss at the upper front joint and upper flap fold corners. Light overall soiling and minor shelf wear to extremities are more than compensated by the jacket's color and completeness. The 1915 jacket is bright and complete apart from fractional loss to the lower rear flap, with no discernible toning, light overall soiling including a faint stain to the upper front joint, and mild wear mostly confined to the bottom edges. The 1916-1918 first jackets present a special problem, as the paper used for the first printing jackets proved particularly brittle, leading the surviving jackets to commonly tone, split, and fragment. This pair is remarkably bright, clean, and complete. The Part I jacket shows only fractional loss to extremities, despite splits to the joints and rear flap fold. The Part II jacket is magnificent, the only fractional loss confined to the flap fold splits, the faces and spine not only still attached to one another, but entirely complete. *The Aftermath* jacket, is not only entirely complete and strikingly clean, but retains its distinctive greenish yellow hue, with only the mildest, uniform spine toning and light wear to extremities. The exceptionally scarce *The Eastern Front* jacket, like those of the 1916-1918 volumes, proved exceptionally brittle. This example is the best we've encountered, with only three tiny chips, respectively to the spine head and the upper and lower edges of the front face. The jacket faces and flaps retain the yellowish-green hue, the jacket spine is only slightly and uniformly toned, and the red print remains bright. All six dust jackets are fitted with clear, removable, archival covers.



All six bindings are tight and square, bright and clean as only jacketed copies can be, with vivid spine gilt, sharp corners, and almost none of the typical scuffing to the handsome but wear-prone smooth navy cloth. Spotting, endemic to the edition, is vanishingly light and almost entirely confined to the text block edges. Differential toning to the endpapers of all six volumes corresponding to the dust jacket flaps confirms what the lovely bindings already testify – that each of these six volumes has spent life jacketed. We find no previous ownership marks anywhere in the set and the only inked name is that of the author – a cut signature of “Winston S. Churchill” tipped onto the front free endpaper recto of *The Eastern Front*. As evidenced by transfer browning to the adjacent half-title, this signature has long been within the book.

Each volume is housed in its own quarter Morocco Solander case. Each case features an arched, dark tan goatskin spine with raised bands that are blind-hatched and framed with blind rules, twin green and red Morocco spine labels, each gilt ruled and stamped, and “London” and the published date of each volume gilt-stamped at the spine heel. Each green spine label features the volume title and subtitle, while each red label features the author “Rt. Hon. Winston S. Churchill”. The Solander sides are tan cloth and the interior of each case is lined with white felt. Condition of the cases is near fine.



Reference: Cohen A69.2(I).b, (II).a, (III-1&2).a, (IV).b, (V).a; Woods/ICS A31(ab); Langworth p.105 [CBC #007227]

\$20,000 USD

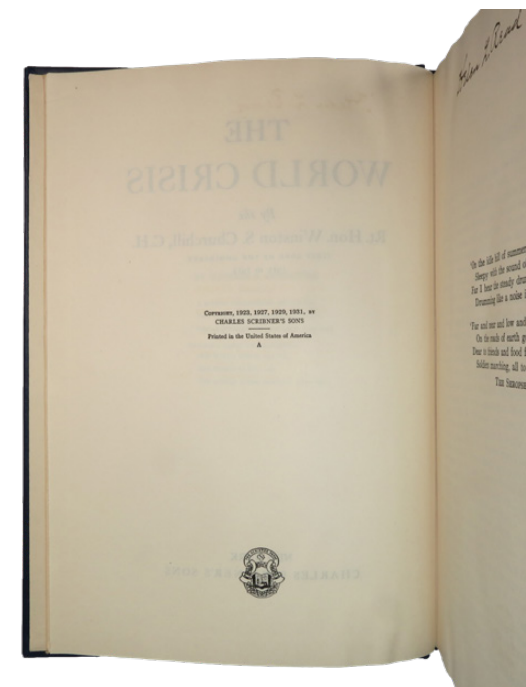
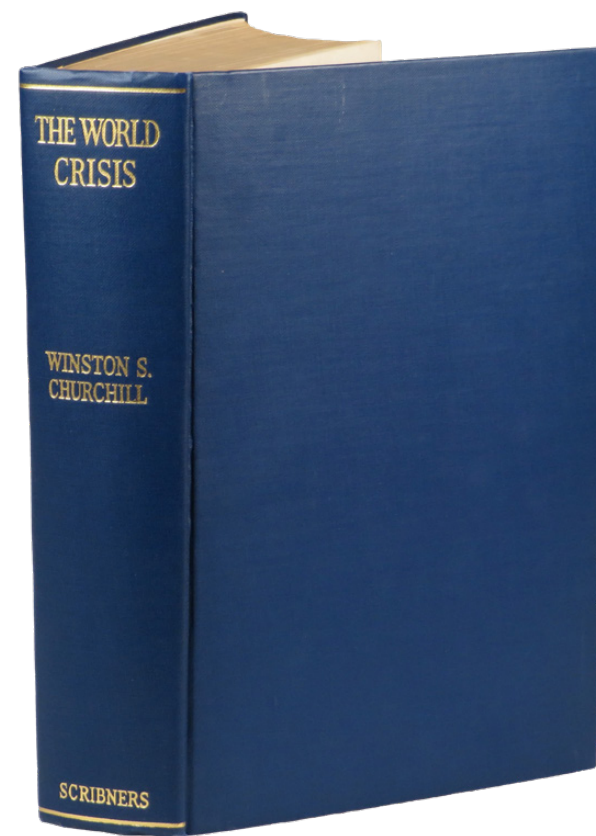
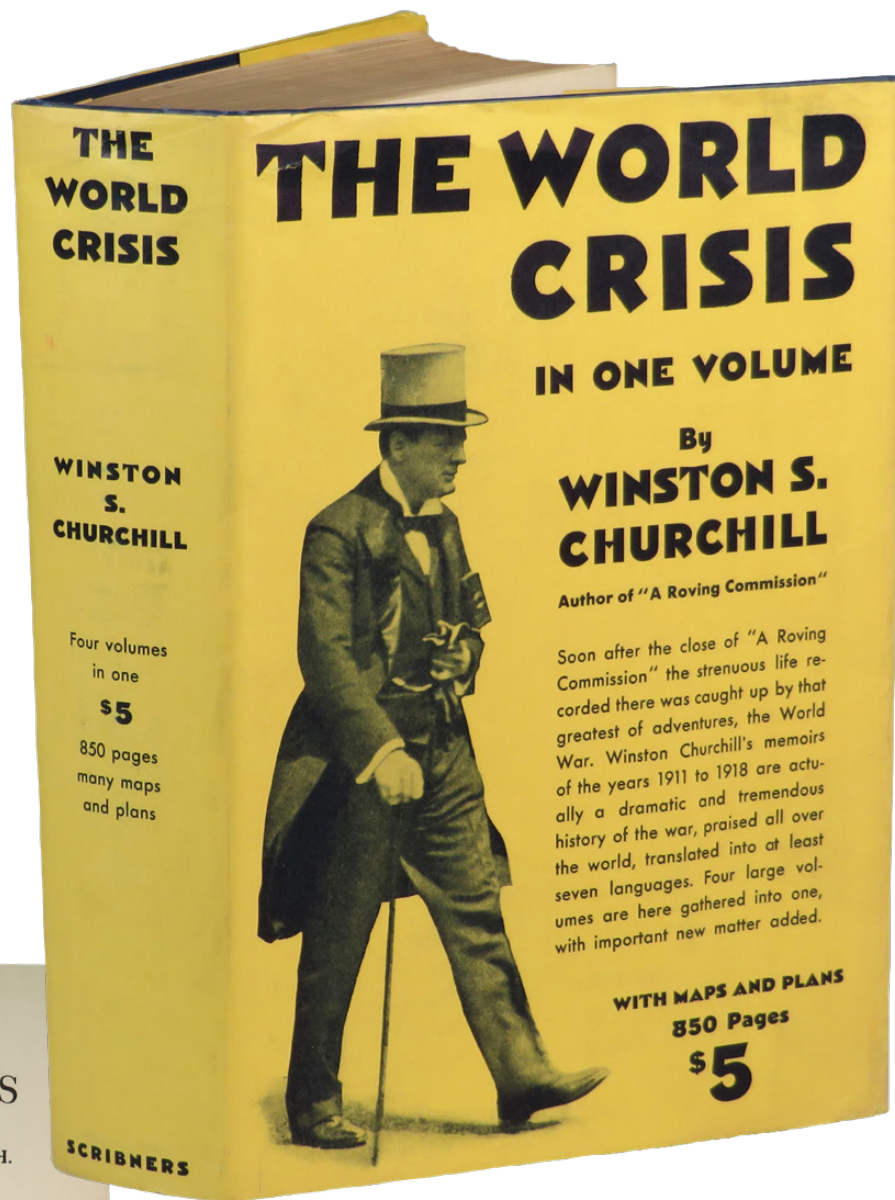
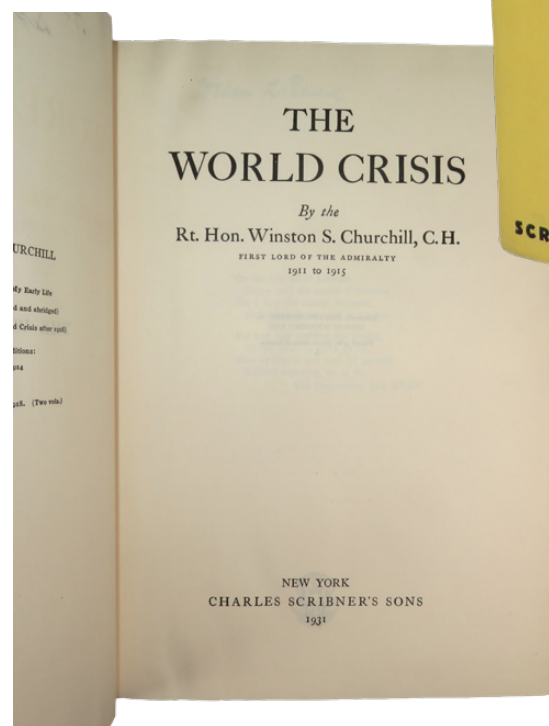
23

The World Crisis

The first abridged and revised edition
Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1931

This is the first abridged and revised edition of Churchill's monumental history of the First World War in the original first printing dust jacket - one of the most striking and rare dust jackets in the Churchill canon. This magnificent copy is quite likely the finest surviving example.

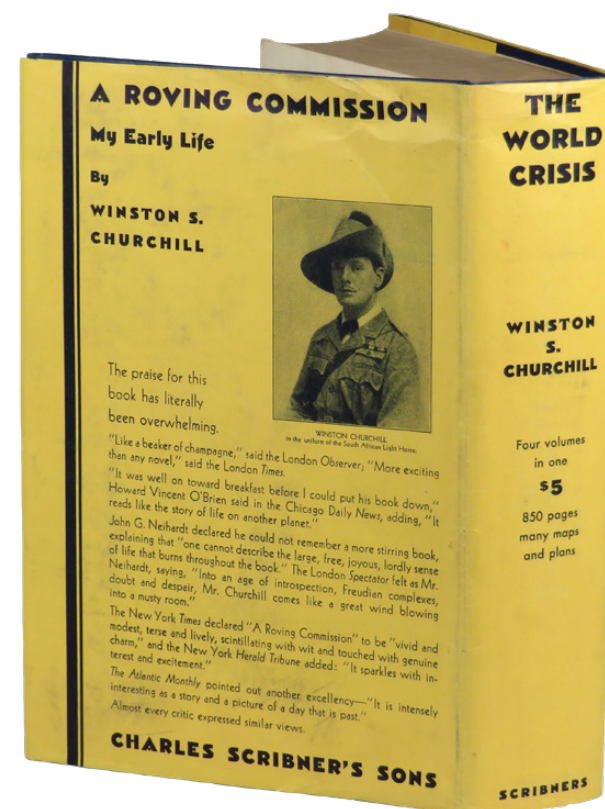
This important edition, covering 1911-1918, is not just an abridgement; it incorporates revisions by Churchill with new material, including a whole new chapter on the Battle of the Marne, as well as a new introduction. Moreover, this U.S. edition preceded the British, making it the true first edition. The front face of the yellow dust jacket features a full-length, half-tone photograph of Churchill striding, in top hat with walking stick in hand. The rear cover features a smaller head and shoulders image of Churchill in the uniform of the South African Light Horse (set amid an advertisement for *A Roving Commission*). Writing in 1997, Churchill expert Richard Langworth said of this dust jacket "I know of only two or three of these in existence." We know of a few more, but certainly only a small number survive and likely no one else owns one like this.



This copy is extraordinary, both the jacket and volume in better than near fine condition. The jacket is complete, the original "\$5.00" price intact on the upper front flap and with no loss whatsoever. Moreover, the jacket is beautifully bright, the yellow hue entirely unfaded. Minor wrinkling to extremities, particularly at the spine head and adjacent portions of the upper faces, and a hint of soiling, mostly to the rear face, are the only appreciable flaws. The dust jacket is fitted with a clear, removable, archival cover. The volume beneath is worthy of its jacket, the navy cloth binding beautifully clean, square, bright, and tight with vivid spine gilt, sharp corners. We find only a trivial hint of shelf wear at the spine heel. The contents are equally bright. There is no spotting and the profusion of maps, charts, etc. are all intact. A hint of age-toning is discernible only to the otherwise clean text block edges. We would grade this copy as truly "fine" if not for previous ownership marks – all three contemporary and the same, consisting of "Mrs. William Read" and a Los Angeles address on the front pastedown, "Helen L. Read" and the date "Sept 1931" on the half-title, and "Helen L. Read" again on the dedication page. A tiny sticker reading "From the Books of J. W. Robinson Co. Seventh & Grand Los Angeles" is affixed to the upper rear pastedown; this was the flagship location of the eponymous department store, built in 1914.

Reference: Cohen A69.5.a, Woods/ICS A31(ba.1), Langworth p.115. [CBC #007228]

\$3,000 USD



My Early Life / A Roving Commission

Originally published on 20 October 1930, *My Early Life* is Churchill's extremely popular autobiography, covering the years from his birth in 1874 to his first few years in Parliament. Published six days later in America as *A Roving Commission*, this is one of the few Churchill first editions for which the U.S. edition features a different title than the British. Interestingly, *A Roving Commission* was the title proposed by Churchill himself.

One can hardly ask for more adventurous content. These momentous and formative years for Churchill included his time as an itinerant war correspondent and cavalry officer in theaters ranging from Cuba, to northwest India, to sub-Saharan and southern Africa. Churchill also recounts his capture and escape during the Boer War, which made him a celebrity and helped launch his political career.

Herein Churchill says:

"Twenty to twenty-five! These are the years!

Don't be content with things as they are.

'The earth is yours and the fulness thereof'.

Enter upon your inheritance, accept your responsibilities....

Don't take No for an answer. Never submit to failure...

You will make all kinds of mistakes; but as long as you are generous and true, and also fierce, you cannot hurt the world or even seriously distress her.

She was made to be wooed and won by youth." (p.60)

By the end of his own twenty-fifth year, Churchill had been one of the world's highest paid war correspondents, published his first five books, made his first lecture tour of North America, braved and breasted both battlefields and the hustings, and been elected to Parliament, where he took his first seat only weeks after the end of Queen Victoria's reign.

My Early Life / A Roving Commission remains one of the most popular and widely read of all Churchill's books and certainly ranks among the most charming and accessible. To be sure, Churchill takes some liberties with facts and perhaps unduly lightens or over-simplifies certain events. Nonetheless, the factual experiences of Churchill's early life would compete with any fiction, and any liberties are forgivable, in keeping with the wit, pace, and engaging style that characterize the book.

The British first edition was issued in a bright plum colored cloth binding and a matching vivid plum dust jacket. It should be noted that first editions of *My Early Life* feature a dizzying array of states and binding variants that can confuse collectors. The U.S. first edition differs from its British counterpart not only in title, but in appearance, being bound in a vivid orange cloth with a striking dust jacket in orange, navy, and white.

In addition to identical content, similarity between the U.S. and British first editions includes fragility and scarcity. Jacketed copies of both are scarce, of the British first edition truly rare.

24

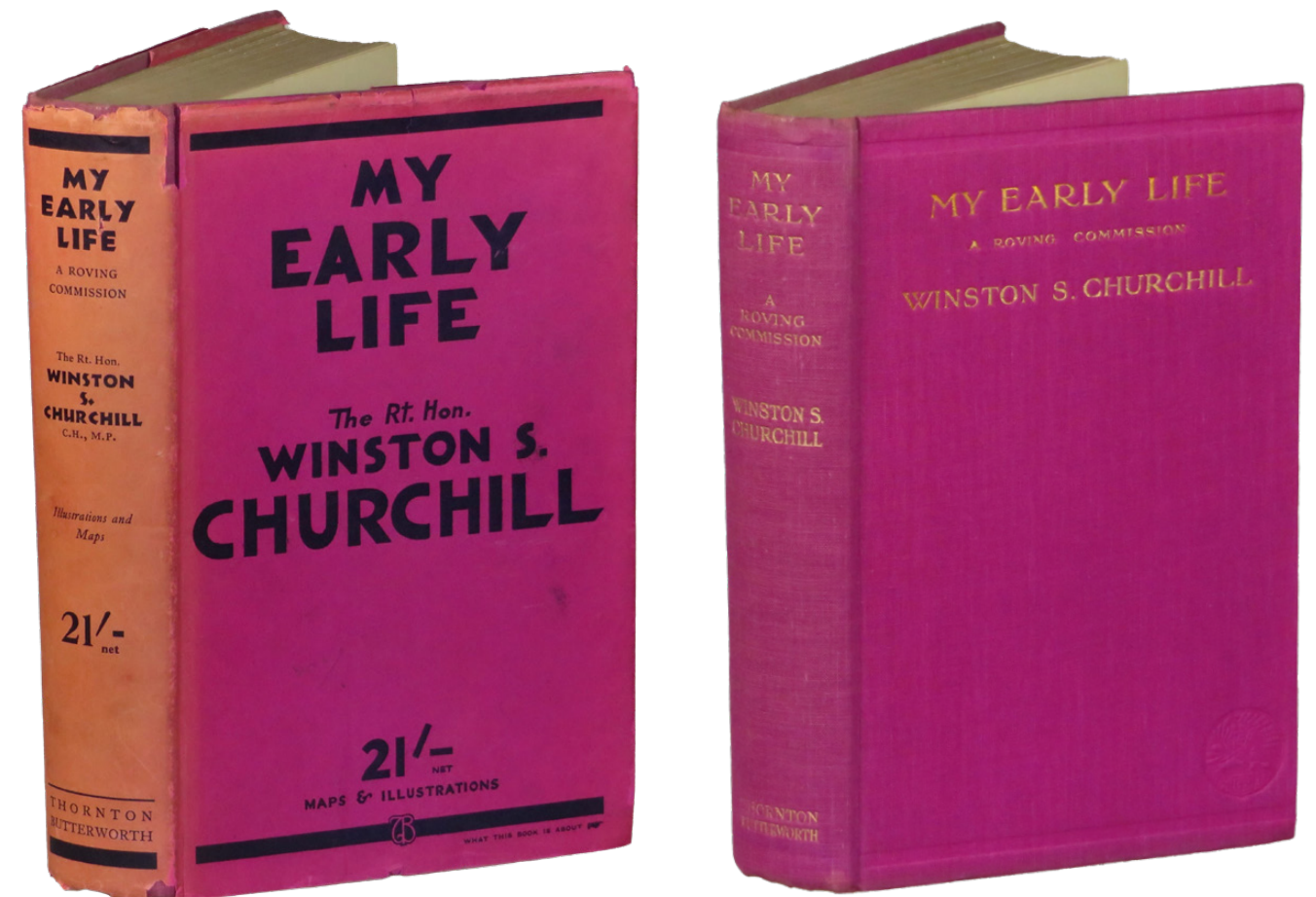
My Early Life

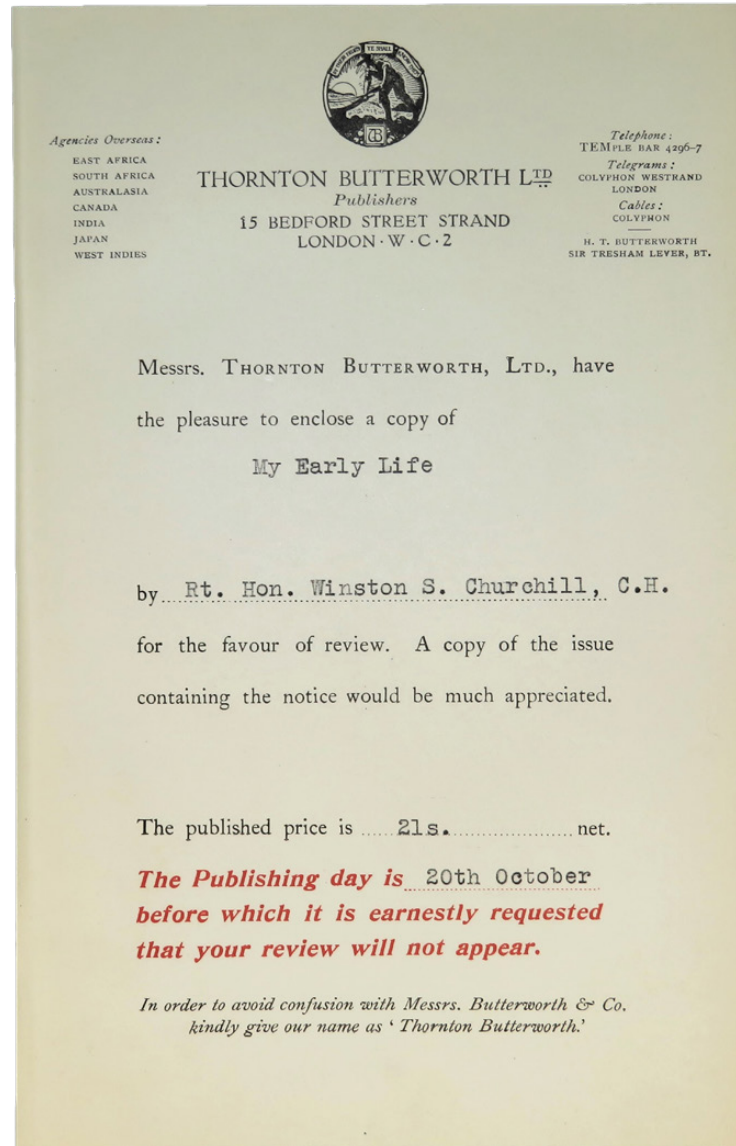
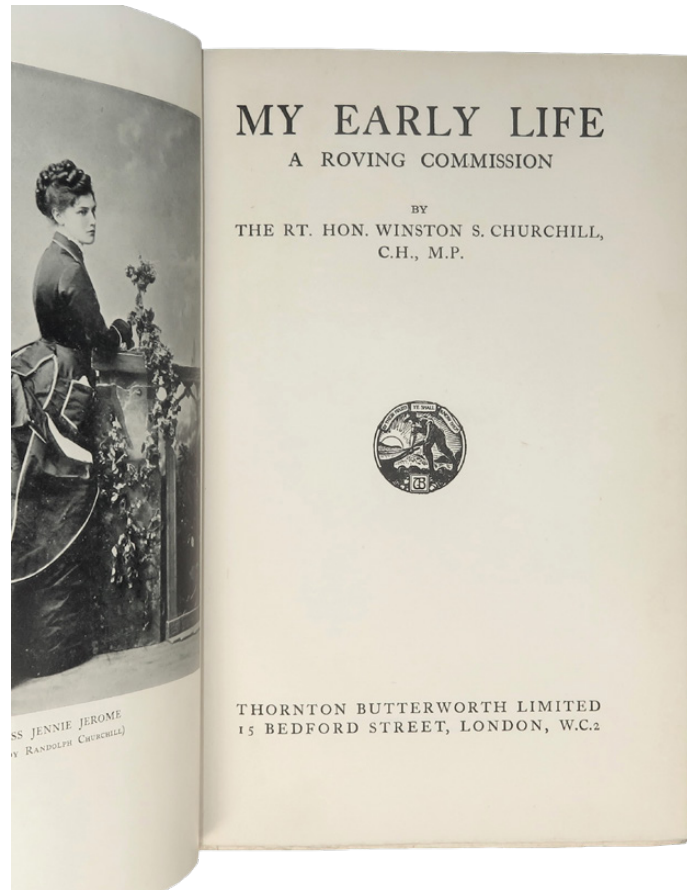
A jacketed publisher's review copy of the first edition, first printing, first state, first binding state
Thornton Butterworth Limited, London, 1930

This is a remarkable and potentially singular prize – a publisher's review copy of the first edition, first printing, first state, first binding state in the extravagantly rare dust jacket.

Churchill's extremely popular autobiography is not only among the most popular of his works to read, but also among the most challenging to secure in prime collectable condition. The first edition's plum colored binding proved quite susceptible to fading, soiling, and wear and the contents prone to heavy spotting. Original dust jackets are extravagantly rare and proved even more vulnerable to sunning than the bindings. Whether because of sunning, the fact that this popular book appears to have been widely read, or both, precious few first edition dust jackets survive.

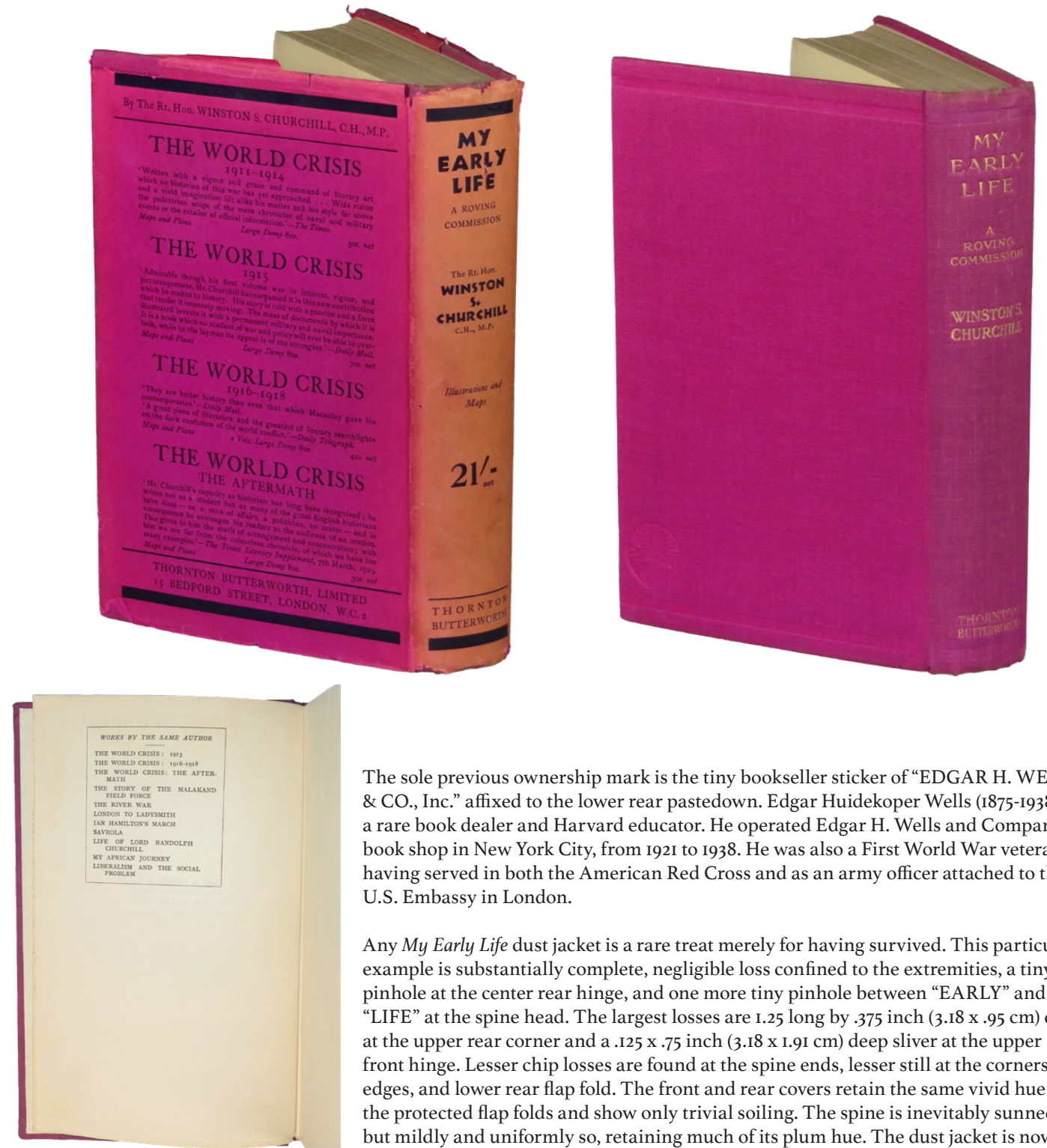
This copy is a notable exception to all of the usual depredations. There are two states of the first edition, first printing, with a list of either 11 or 12 Churchill titles in the half title verso's boxed list of "Works by the same Author"; those with only 11 omit "THE WORLD CRISIS: 1911-1914". Moreover, there were multiple first edition first printing binding states, featuring either coarse or smooth cloth, with the title and author printed in either three or five lines on the front cover. First state of this copy is confirmed by 11 works listed on the half-title verso. Coarse cloth with three lines of front cover print confirms first binding state.





Any doubt that this was among the very first copies printed is dispelled by our discovery, laid in preceding the half-title, of the original publisher's review slip. This slip is printed in black and red on a piece of 8.25 x 5.25 inch (20.96 x 13.34 cm) Thornton Butterworth Ltd. stationery. Typed on the slip are the title, "My Early Life", the author's name "Rt. Hon. Winston S. Churchill C.H.", the published price "21s." and the publishing day "20th October". The slip both requests "the favour of review" and entreats, in italicized red print, that the review not appear before the publication date. This is not only the first jacketed first printing, first state, first binding state we have encountered, but also the first publisher's review copy.

The review slip is pristine, having spent its life laid into the volume. Condition of the volume is near fine. Condition of the jacket approaches very good. The coarse cloth plum binding remains deliciously bright and clean, square and tight with sharp corners and only trivial hints of shelf wear to extremities. Small, barely discernible traces of sunning correspond to small dust jacket losses at the spine extremities, confirming that this book and jacket have journeyed together since they left the publisher. The contents have a crisp, unread feel, confirmed by uncut signatures throughout. We may be grateful for the irony that the intended reviewer clearly did not read this copy. Very light spotting is entirely confined to the page edges, which are otherwise clean apart from mild age-toning and a touch of soiling to the top edge.



The sole previous ownership mark is the tiny bookseller sticker of "EDGAR H. WELLS & CO., Inc." affixed to the lower rear pastedown. Edgar Huidekoper Wells (1875-1938) was a rare book dealer and Harvard educator. He operated Edgar H. Wells and Company, a book shop in New York City, from 1921 to 1938. He was also a First World War veteran, having served in both the American Red Cross and as an army officer attached to the U.S. Embassy in London.

Any *My Early Life* dust jacket is a rare treat merely for having survived. This particular example is substantially complete, negligible loss confined to the extremities, a tiny pinhole at the center rear hinge, and one more tiny pinhole between "EARLY" and "LIFE" at the spine head. The largest losses are 1.25 long by .375 inch (3.18 x .95 cm) deep at the upper rear corner and a .125 x .75 inch (3.18 x 1.91 cm) deep sliver at the upper front hinge. Lesser chip losses are found at the spine ends, lesser still at the corners, edges, and lower rear flap fold. The front and rear covers retain the same vivid hue as the protected flap folds and show only trivial soiling. The spine is inevitably sunned, but mildly and uniformly so, retaining much of its plum hue. The dust jacket is now protected beneath a removable, clear, archival cover.

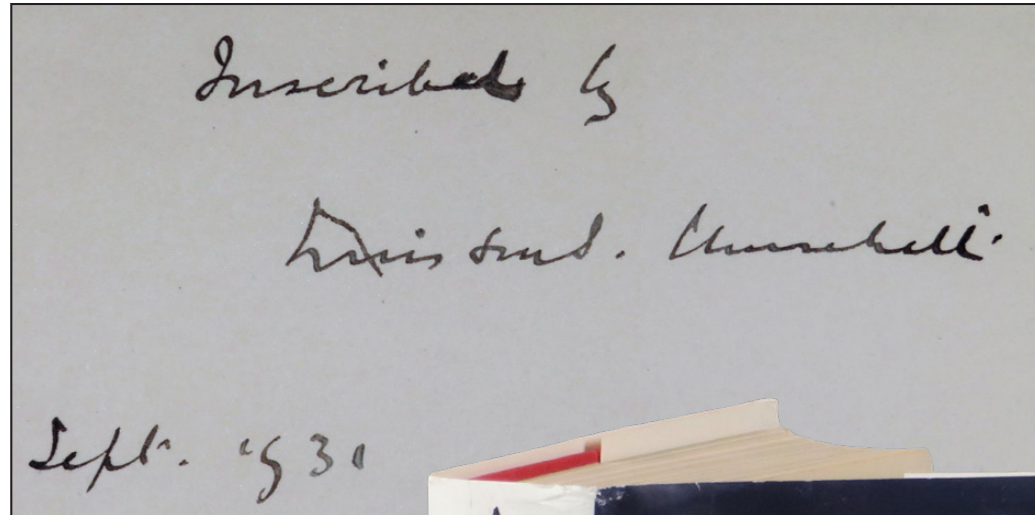
Reference: A91.1.a, Woods/ICS A37(aa), Langworth p.131 [CBC #006018]

\$27,500 USD

25

A Roving Commission

A magnificent, jacketed copy of the first edition, first printing, inscribed and dated by Churchill in September 1931
Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1930

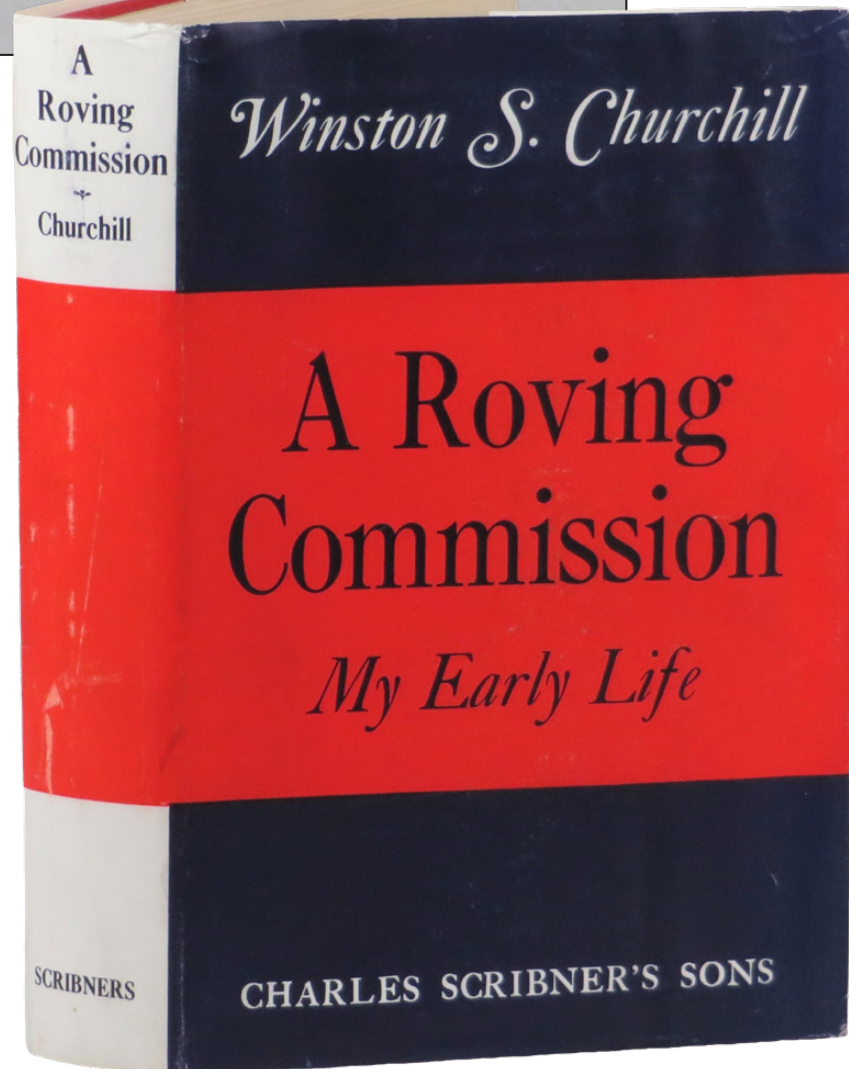


This is a rare and compelling convergence of edition, condition, popularity, and provenance. This U.S. first edition, first printing of Winston S. Churchill's autobiography of his early life – perhaps foremost among his most enduringly popular works – is an exceptionally well-preserved copy in a likewise exceptionally well-preserved first issue dust jacket. Condition alone would render this copy magnificent, but this copy is also inscribed and dated by the author within a year of publication. The inscription, inked in three lines on the front free endpaper recto, reads: “*Inscribed by | Winston S. Churchill | Sept. 1931*”.

Condition

This first edition, first printing is distinguished thus by the first issue dust jacket and the Scribner's “A” on the title page verso. This first printing was published in late October 1930, less than a year before it was inscribed.

The U.S. first edition's red-orange cloth binding proved highly susceptible to fading and soiling and the thin, fragile dust jacket proved highly vulnerable to wear and severe fading, particularly on the jacket spine. Jacketed copies of the U.S. first edition are scarce and respectable unjacketed copies are unusual.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

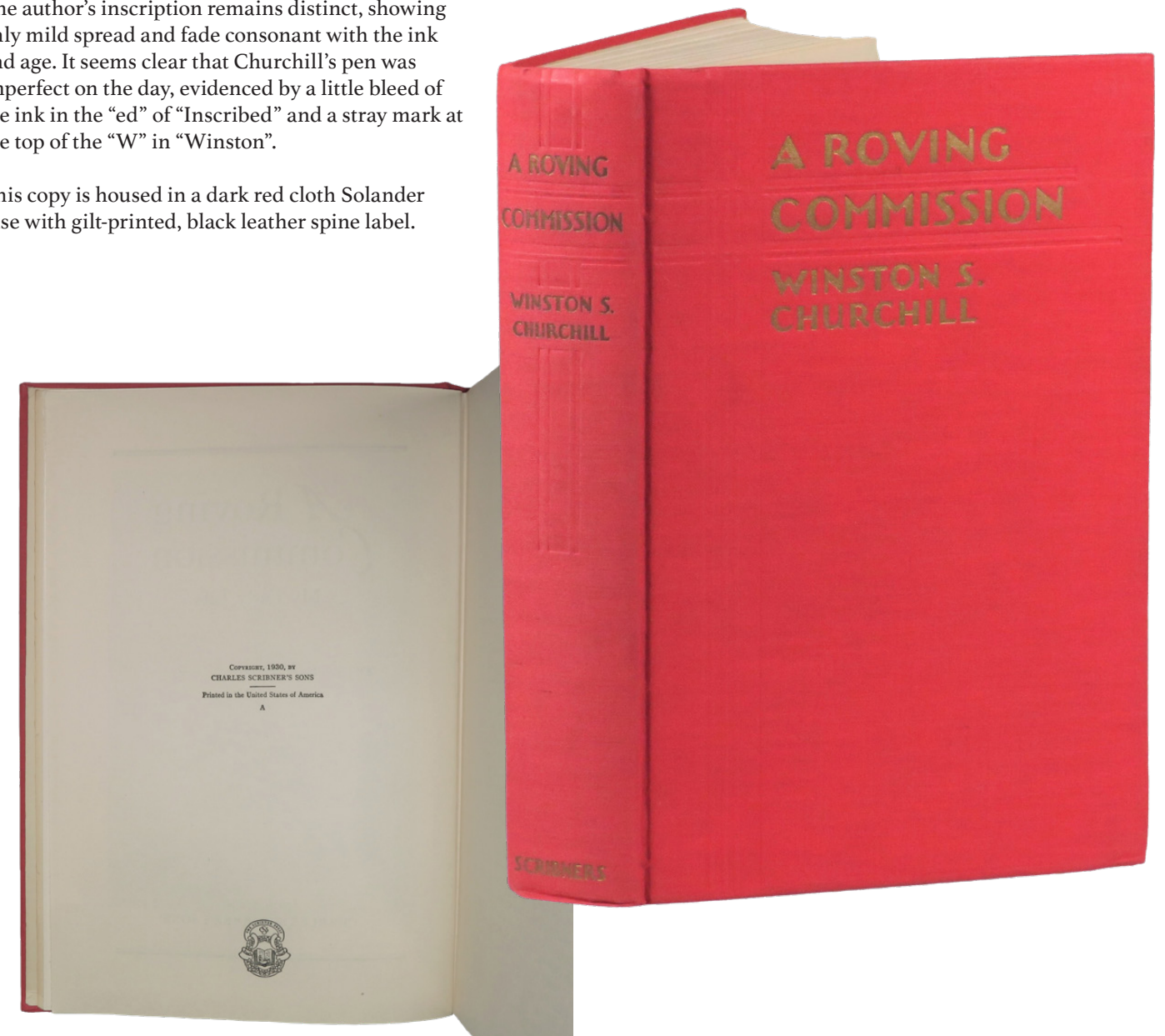
This copy truly impresses. Conservatively, we grade both the volume and dust jacket as near fine. It would be exceptional thus for condition alone. Inscribed and dated, it is a prize.

Even without hyperbolizing, we will nonetheless swiftly run short of superlatives. The red-orange cloth binding is square, clean, bright, and tight, with no appreciable color shift between the covers and spine. We note only incidental signs of handling in the form of a barely discernible hint of soiling to the spine and very lightly bruised lower corners. The contents are simply the brightest and cleanest we have ever seen, improbably bright in fact. Even the page edges – including the top edge and untrimmed fore edges – are strikingly bright and clean. Searching for flaws we note only a little original binding glue residue to the bottom edge of the text block adjacent to the spine, two small marks to the front pastedown (as if from something once laid in) and a light, faint finger smudge to the bottom edge of the front free endpaper – notionally, though certainly not definitively, dating from when the page was inscribed by the author.

The dust jacket is simply the best-preserved example we have ever seen – entirely complete with no loss or tears, and, like the contents, strikingly, improbably bright. Soiling is incidental. If not for a negligible wear to extremities and some scuffs to the beautifully bright orange spine panel, one might not believe this is an original first issue jacket. Marvelously, it most certainly is. The jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.

The author's inscription remains distinct, showing only mild spread and fade consonant with the ink and age. It seems clear that Churchill's pen was imperfect on the day, evidenced by a little bleed of the ink in the “ed” of “Inscribed” and a stray mark at the top of the “W” in “Winston”.

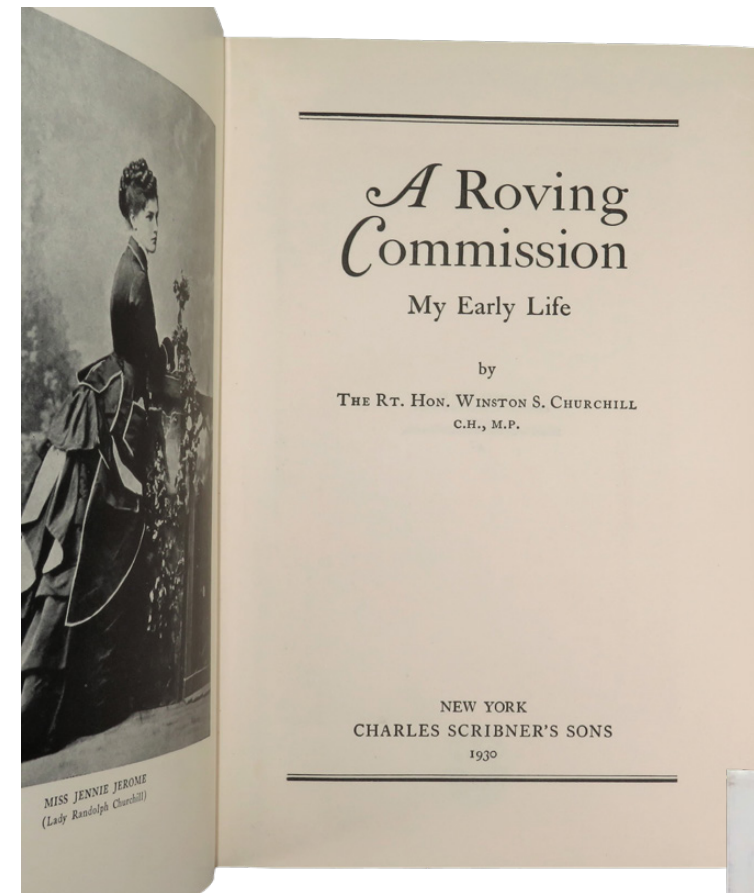
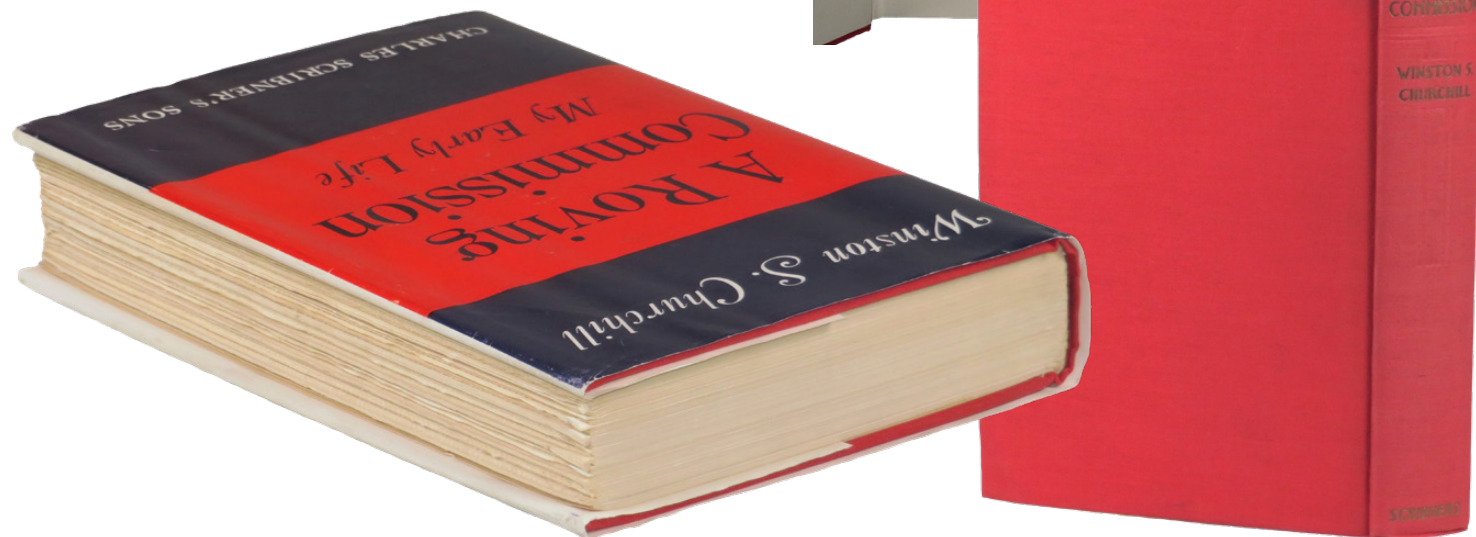
This copy is housed in a dark red cloth Solander case with gilt-printed, black leather spine label.



The moment

September 1931 is an intriguing time for this copy of the U.S. first edition, first printing to have received Churchill's inscription. Churchill was in North America from early December 1931 to early March 1932. Certainly, he inscribed some U.S. editions of his works during that trip (which included his nearly-fatal incident with a car in New York and subsequent convalescence). Copies of U.S. editions of Churchill's works known to us and definitively signed during his December 1931 – March 1932 sojourn in North America include both *A Roving Commission* and *The World Crisis*. But in September 1931, when this copy was inscribed, Churchill was in England. He was at the beginning of what would become his "Wilderness Years" – a decade spent out of power and out of favor, often at odds with both his political party and prevailing public sentiment. Not until September 1939 – eight years after this inscription – would Churchill return to power at the outbreak of the Second World War. It would be a long, fraught, and fretful period for Churchill, during which he would write and publish continuously while also continuously fighting losing political battles. All, as it turned out, was preparation for his storied wartime premiership.

But in September 1931, Churchill was arguably as far from 10 Downing Street, as he had ever been. Churchill published two books in 1931. *India*, a book of speeches on the same topic, encapsulated Churchill's strong opposition to the India Act). Tellingly, it is one of the few Churchill books that did not see contemporary publication of a U.S. edition. In early November, weeks after he inscribed this copy of *A Roving Commission*, Churchill also published the final volume of *The World Crisis*, his epic memoir of the First World War – during which the Dardanelles debacle and its aftermath had nearly cost Churchill both his political and corporeal lives. It is interesting to contemplate the factors notionally influencing Churchill's state of mind in 1931. Churchill turned 57 in 1931. In October of the previous year he had published the autobiography of his early life – an effective acknowledgement of how much of his life was already history. 1931 included the losing battle over India and capping his First World War memoirs. He was out of power and in strenuous opposition to his own party, reckoning both personal and national financial straits, and watching the unraveling of economic policies he had championed as Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1924-1929.



It is possible that this copy of *A Roving Commission* was inscribed in England or in France. The beginning of September found Churchill at the Hotel Provencale at Juan-les-Pins "where he painted, relaxed and enjoyed the warmth and sun." On his return from France, at the beginning of September, Churchill continued his campaign against the now officially bi-partisan India policy. That month, Gandhi arrived in London for the second Round-Table Conference at St. James's Palace. At the same time, Britain wrestled with economic crisis which Parliament discussed emergency measures to alleviate. On 21 September, the Gold Standard – a focal point and lightning rod of Churchill's tenure as Chancellor of the Exchequer – was formally abandoned.

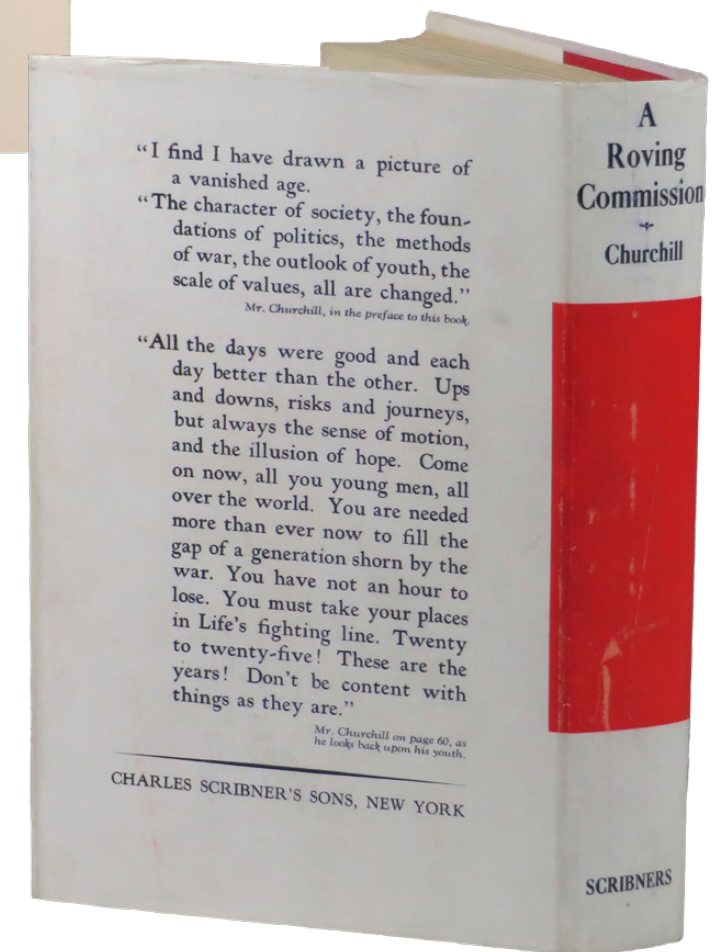
One of the few political bright spots in 1931 for Churchill was his own re-election. Parliament was dissolved on 7 October and an election held on 27 October in which Churchill greatly increased his majority in his constituency.

Reference: Cohen A91.2.a, Woods/ICS A37(b.1), Langworth p. 134. [CBC #006881]

\$18,500 USD

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

By the end of 1931, it would get worse. The lecture tour of America was meant, in part, to restore Churchill's finances. Churchill departed England on 5 December, arriving in New York on 11. Two days later, on 13 December, he received a dinner invitation from his old friend, Bernard Baruch. Churchill knew Baruch lived on Fifth Avenue and had been there several times, but he did not know the exact address. After he left his cab to search on foot, he was met with the peril of every transatlantic traveler; he looked the wrong way to cross the street – and was consequently struck by a car. Witnesses feared he had been killed. Churchill's lectures did not resume until 28 January 1932, following a lengthy recovery.



26

India

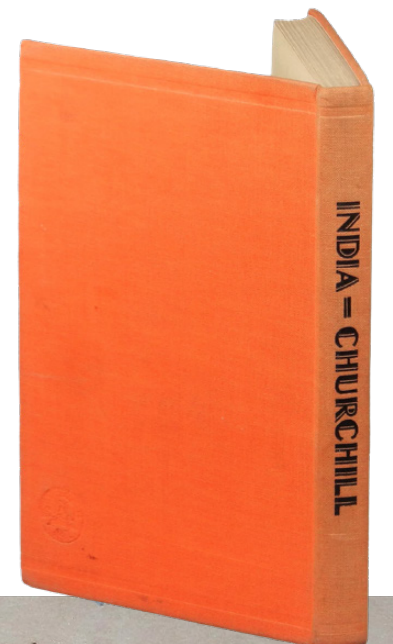
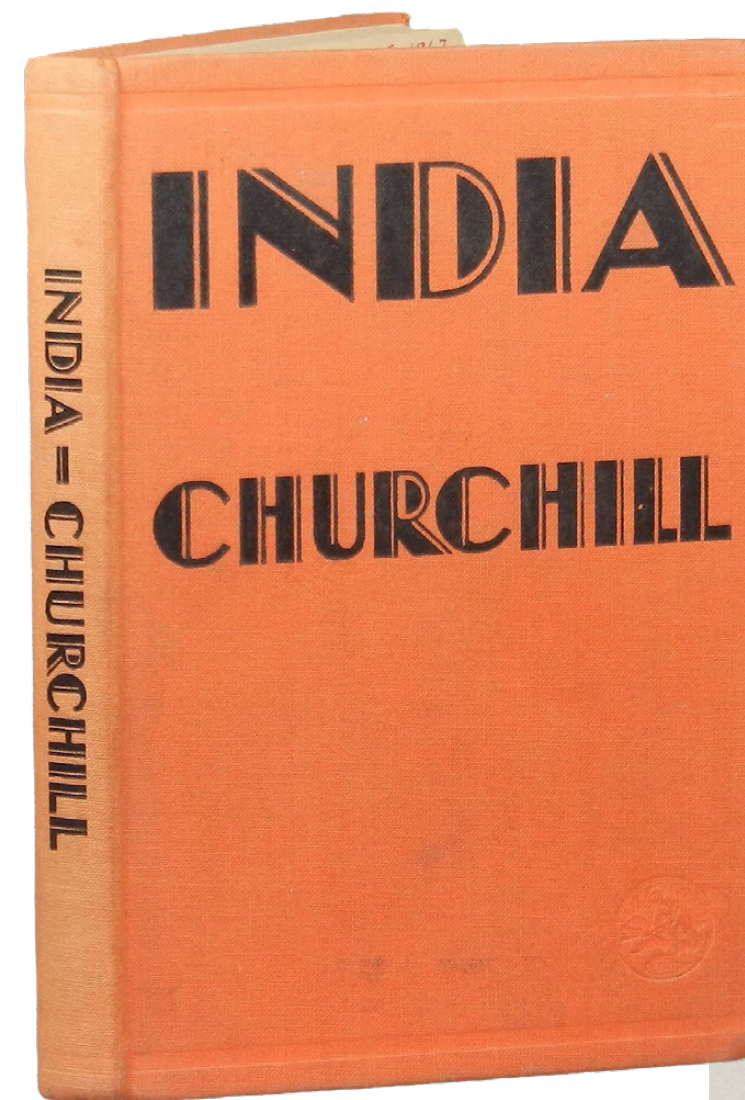
An author's presentation copy of the scarce hardcover issue inscribed by Churchill the month following publication to James Craig, 1st Viscount Craigavon and first Prime Minister of Northern Ireland

Thornton Butterworth Limited, London 1931

This is an author's presentation copy of the scarce hardcover issue of *India*, inscribed by Winston S. Churchill to James Craig, first Viscount Craigavon and first Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, with whom Churchill had worked closely for the previous decade to establish and secure peace between northern and southern Irish states. The inscription, inked in black in five lines on the front free endpaper, reads: "To | Craigavon | from | Winston S. Churchill | 1931. June".

This first edition, second and final impression was issued in May, the same month as the first printing. Given that publication of the first printing took place on 27 May 1931, this copy was inscribed within weeks of publication. This is a

remarkable association copy of a book almost never encountered signed, let alone inscribed, and certainly not in this, the scarcest of the first edition binding variants. It also bears the cringe-worthy evidence of previous ownership by a former mayor of Beverly Hills, California, who was clearly more narcissist than bibliophile.



Craigavon
from
Winston S. Churchill

1931. June

India

India is a collection of 10 speeches by Churchill as part of his campaign against the India Bill over which he broke with his party leadership. Though his cause was lost, these speeches are considered to contain some of the finest examples of Churchill's rhetorical brilliance.

Churchill did not adopt an early progressive attitude toward relinquishing control over the crown jewel of Britain's colonial empire. It is easy to remember that Churchill uncharitably called Gandhi "... a seditious Middle Temple lawyer... now posing as a fakir, striding half naked up the steps of the Viceregal palace to parley on equal terms with the representative of the King-Emperor."

India is, in many ways, an archetypal work of Churchill's "wilderness years" in the 1930s, which saw him out of power and out of favor, unable to leverage the policies to which he nonetheless applied himself with characteristic vigor and eloquence.

It is instructive to remember that Churchill spent formative time as a young 19th century cavalry officer in the closing years of Queen Victoria's reign fighting on the northwest Indian frontier, about which he would write his first published book. It is also instructive to remember that many of Churchill's dire warnings about Indian independence proved prophetic. Churchill had warned that too swift a British withdrawal from India would lead to bloody civil war and sectarian strife between Hindus and Muslims, Hindu domination, and destabilizing political balkanization of the subcontinent. All these predictions came to pass and, to a considerable extent, persist today.

Political prescience aside, there is no question that relinquishing India was more than simply a matter of policy. Churchill's faith in the British Empire's beneficence and destiny could approach obdurate. There was perhaps more than just characteristic wartime defiance in his 10 November 1942 utterance: "We have not entered this war for profit or expansion... Let me, however, make this clear... I have not become the King's First Minister in order to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire. For that task, if ever it were prescribed, someone else would have to be found."

Someone else was found; Churchill's wartime premiership fell to the Labour victory in the July 1945 General Election, relegating Churchill to Leader of the Opposition. On 15 August 1947 the Indian Independence Bill took effect, creating the independent nations of India and Pakistan and birthing the world's most populous democracy in what was arguably the largest single act of political liberation in history. Independence also unfettered religious and communal strife that has lethally festered and flared ever since, claiming Gandhi himself in January 1948.

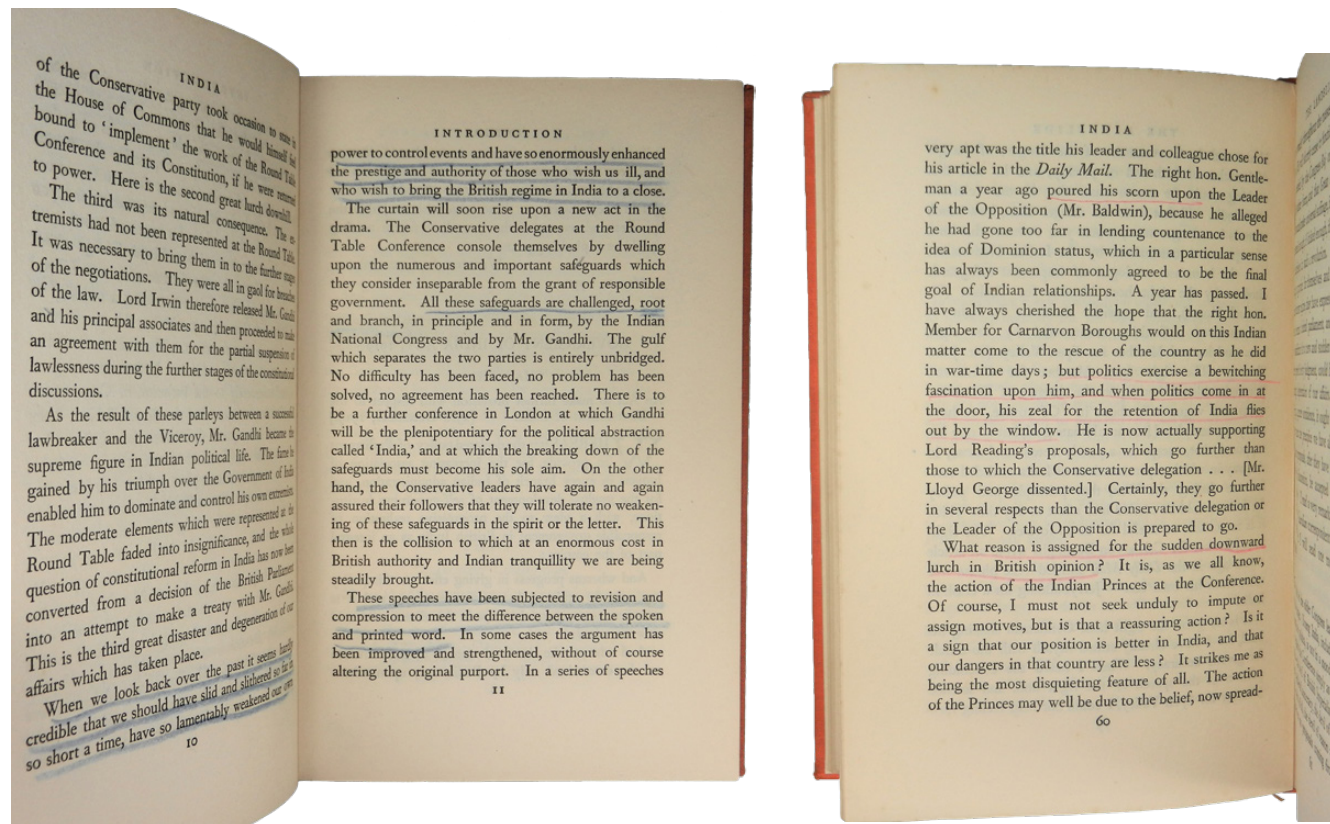
Condition

Condition is generally very good. The distinctive orange cloth binding is square and tight with only modest overall soiling, slight color shift to the spine, and trivial wear to extremities. The contents show only light spotting, primarily confined to the page edges, with occasional intrusions into the inner margins.

What mars this remarkable association copy is its secondary and far lesser association, namely its previous ownership by Hugh W. Darling (1901-1986), a former Mayor of Beverly Hills (elected 1960) and President of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. This copy was acquired directly from the estate of Darling in the late 1980s. In a singular act of ill-advised vandalism, Darling inked “Hugh W. Darling | From H.S.D.” one inch below Churchill’s gift inscription. “H.S.D.” is presumably Darling’s wife, Hazel, from whom Darling ostensibly received the book as a gift. Inked above and to the right of Churchill’s inscription are two dates. “Dec. 25, 1967” is inked in red above “Jan 1, 1968” in blue.

Further marks within the text are, mercifully, in pencil rather than in ink. While we have left this underlining intact, it appears erasable. Underlining appears in blue or red colored pencil on pages 10, 11, 23, 46, 47, 50, 60, 62, 65-68, 72, 85, 104, 112, 115, 120, 124, 126, and 138. One plausible explanation is that the 1967 and 1968 dates written in red and blue ink on the upper right of the front free endpaper denote when this underlining was done. However, we note that the underlining is in pencil while the dates are inked and that colored pencils were commercially available before this presentation copy was inscribed by Churchill for James Craig. Images of all signed pages can be supplied upon request.

Certainly, this is a par excellence example of magnificent book marred by a doltish philistine of a previous owner. Nonetheless, it remains a remarkable association copy of a book almost never seen signed, let alone inscribed.



The Association

James Craig, (1871-1940), first Viscount Craigavon, served as first Prime Minister of Northern Ireland from 1921 until his death in 1940.

This association inscription is splendidly charged with irony. Churchill vigorously opposed Indian independence on the grounds that it would unleash the destructive potential of religious strife, lead to bitter partition and disputed borders, and unleash sectarian violence. Churchill came to support Irish Home Rule – which entailed both a bitter partition and fueled the ensuing better part of a century of sectarian violence and territorial disputes. James Craig was a vehement opponent of Irish independence, though he became the first Prime Minister for Northern Ireland and worked - closely with Churchill - to ensure the viability and perpetuation of a self-governing Northern Ireland.

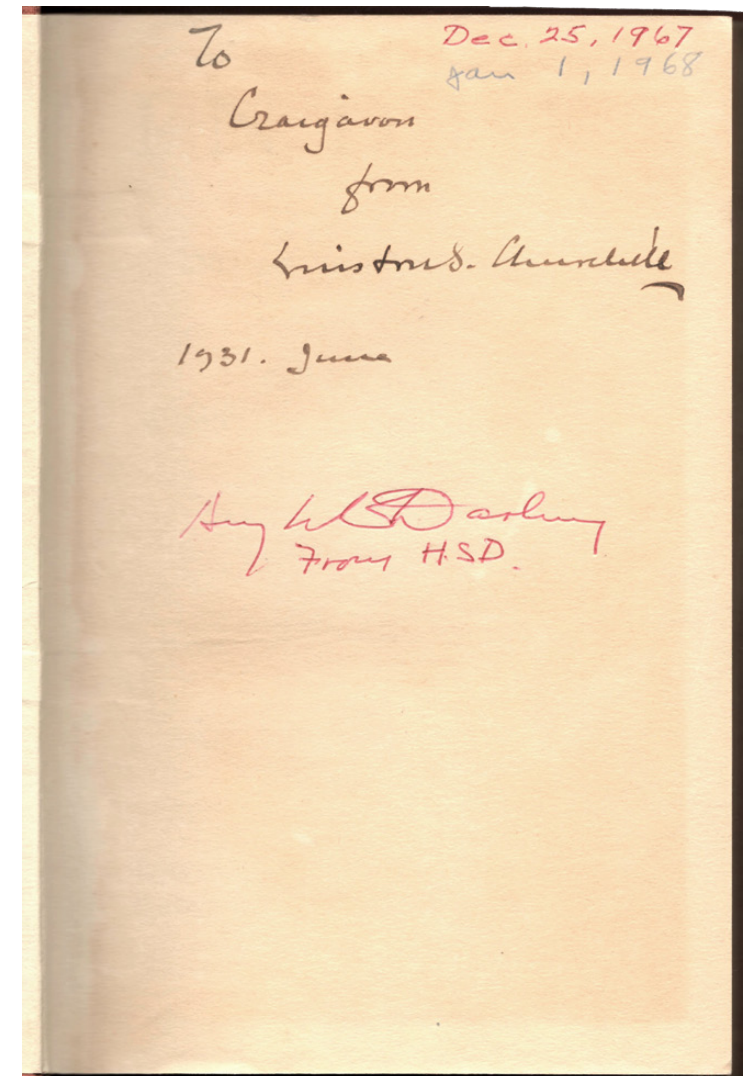
Churchill’s father, Lord Randolph, had vigorously supported Ulster Unionists like Craig. Over time, Winston came to support Home Rule, and by the eve of the First World War was a strong advocate. The Home Rule crisis of 1912-1914 was sidelined by the outbreak of World War I. Nonetheless, Churchill ultimately introduced the Irish Free State Bill, which won passage in 1922. During the 1920s, in successive Cabinet positions in both Liberal and Conservative Governments, Churchill worked closely with Craig to pursue peace and political stability within and between northern and southern Irish states.

Born in Dublin to a wealthy distiller, Craig, like Churchill, served in the South African War (1899-1902). Also like Churchill, Craig was taken prisoner, but where Churchill famously escaped, Craig was released by the Boers because of a perforated eardrum.

“In appearance Craig was a large, strong-featured, red-faced man, easily open to caricature as a typical straight-talking Ulsterman or, alternatively, the bull-necked and inflexible Ulster Unionist.” (ODNB) Craig was a Unionist MP from 1906-21, and a leading opponent of Home Rule before 1914. As Home Rule was debated prior to the First World War, “he and his fellow Unionists prepared to resist home rule by force of arms” and he declared the Liberal Government, of which Churchill was a Cabinet member, as a “caucus, led by rebels.” (Buckland, *Craig*, p.32) Churchill declared Craig’s position in 1914 as “coercion for four-fifths of Ireland”. (Gilbert, Vol. II, p.489).

But Craig was also a shrewd pragmatist, and when the outbreak of the First World War sidelined the Irish question, Craig placed the Ulster Volunteer Force (which became the 36th Ulster division) at the disposal of the British government.

He was created Baronet in 1918, and worked in the British Government’s Ministry of Pensions (1919-1920) and Admiralty (1920-21) before becoming the first Prime Minister of Northern Ireland (under the Government of Ireland Act) in June 1921. He would remain Prime Minister for nearly two decades until his death in 1940. Craig was created Viscount Craigavon of Stormont in 1927. (Hence Churchill’s inscription to “Craigavon” in this copy of *India* in 1931.)



Craig’s long and fraught premiership was complicated by efforts to establish the political and financial integrity of Northern Ireland. This task was defined by the violent rifts between Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State, and by the need to balance Northern Ireland’s simultaneous dependence upon, and resentment of, the British government. Craig’s whole career can be regarded as “fashioned in opposition to the claims of Irish nationalism” and it can be said “He was able to carry the British government with him in important respects because it did not want... the responsibility of governing Northern Ireland directly on British shoulders.” (ODNB) Craig was not without sympathy for nationalist aspirations or his own Catholic minority, albeit bounded by the confines of his character and convictions and the implacable perspectives of his people.

In the early 1920s, Churchill and Craig worked both together and, occasionally, at odds, during the establishment and early conflict between the Irish states. In 1922, in an attempt to broker peace between Northern and Southern Ireland, Churchill brought Craig and Michael Collins together, a meeting which took place in Churchill’s own room at the Colonial Office on January 21.

Seven years later, in *The World Crisis*, Churchill recalled:

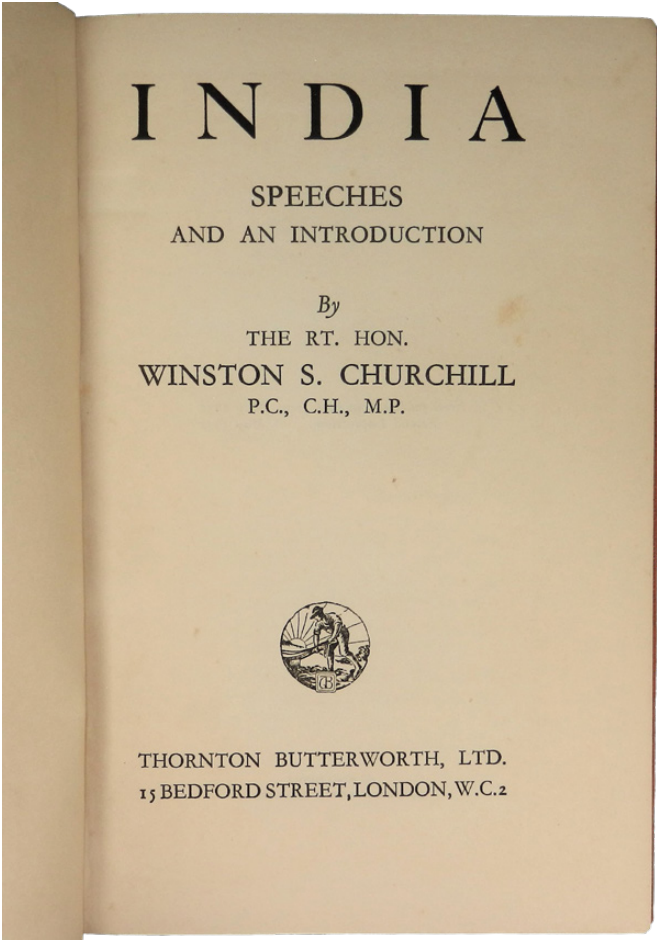
“They both glowered magnificently, but after a short, commonplace talk I slipped away upon some excuse and left them together. What these two Irishmen, separated by such gulfs of religion, sentiment, and conduct, said to each other I cannot tell. But it took a long time, and, as I did not wish to disturb them, mutton chops, etc., were tactfully introduced about one o’clock. At four o’clock the Private Secretary reported signs of movement on the All-Ireland front and I ventured to look in. They were to help each other in every way; they were to settle outstanding points by personal discussion; they were to stand together within the limits agreed against all disturbers of the peace. We three then joined in the best of all pledges, to wit, “To try to make things work.”” (Gilbert, Vol. IV, p.686)

The resulting statement began: “Peace is to-day declared.” Churchill countersigned it on behalf of the British Government, but in spite of these efforts the “peace” proved transitory” (Bromage, *Churchill and Ireland*, p.77)

Craig would meet again with Collins in Churchill’s office and under his aegis in March, which resulted in the signing of a widely hailed agreement between North and South, paving the way for the Irish Free State Bill to become law on March 31, 1922. Churchill had played a major part in introducing it to the House of Commons, in guiding its passage, and in beating down the reiterated hostility of an influential group of Conservatives and Unionists.” (Gilbert, Vol. IV, p.702)

But both the conflict and Churchill’s work with Craig were far from over. On 4 December 1925, after Churchill (now Chancellor of the Exchequer) presided over three days of “intense and difficult negotiations with the Northern and Southern leaders” on both boundary and debt questions. Craig wrote to Churchill: “I feel it impossible to leave for Ulster without first thanking you most sincerely for the big part you have successfully played in bringing about a settlement”. (Gilbert, Vol. V, p.138)

Much changed for both men between the pre-First World War Home Rule debates and the mid-1920s. When Churchill traveled with his wife to Belfast in 1912 to give a speech in favor of Irish Home Rule, “A hostile crowd of nearly 10,000 greeted them outside the Grand Central Hotel in Belfast, where they were staying.” Ultimately, the credible threat of violence barred Churchill from speaking in Ulster Hall - the very same hall where his father famously opposed Home Rule in 1886, declaring “Ulster will fight and Ulster will be right.” When Churchill did speak – from the Celtic Park Football Ground rather than in Ulster Hall – he acknowledged “No one underrates the difficulties...” But, invoking the Boer War experience he shared with Craig, Churchill said: “We have made friends with our enemies - can we not make friends with our comrades too?”



Fourteen years later, in March 1926, Churchill finally spoke in Ulster Hall. This time, Churchill and his wife were official guests of Prime Minister Craig and Churchill was awarded an honorary degree from Queen’s University. (Bromage, *Churchill and Ireland*, p.108)

In the ensuring years of leadership, both men continued to suffer tremendous pressures and failed ambitions – Craig’s resulting from leadership of a politically and territorially tenuous Northern Ireland, Churchill’s inherent to convictions that ran contrary to those of his Party and public sentiment. Perhaps these challenges engendered mutual sympathies.

For Christmas in 1938, after the disastrous Munich Agreement and at the height of Churchill’s rift with Chamberlain and his own Conservative Party, Craig sent Churchill an engraved silver cup. Churchill wrote to Craig on 24 December:

“Coming as it does at this time of trouble and misunderstanding in which I feel much alone, tho’ constant, it is grateful to me beyond words... you are one of the few who have it in their power to bestow judgments which I respect.”

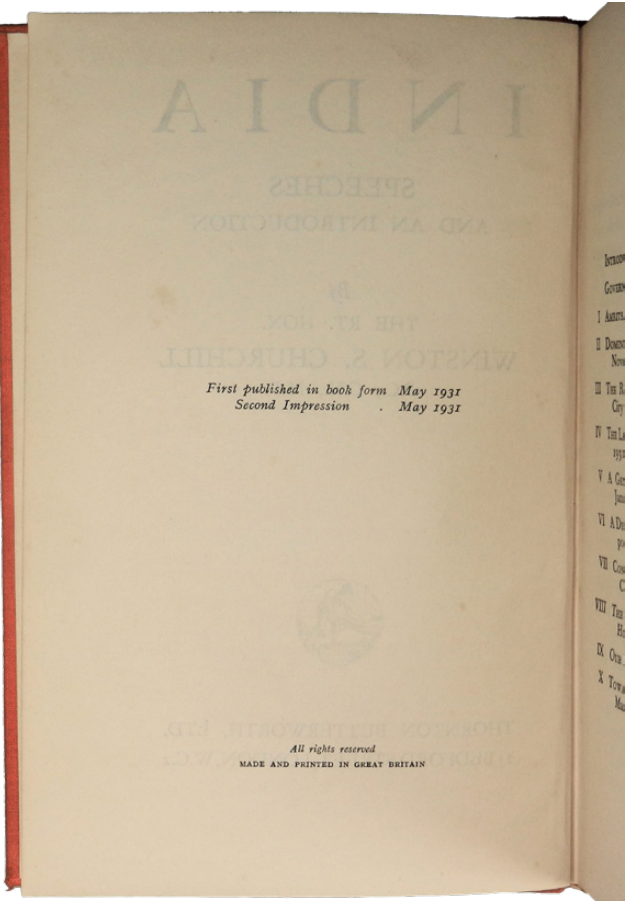
The gift was more than just a cup. Two weeks later Churchill wrote to his wife:

“I think it very beautiful in design. It is quite small and a goblet shape, according to an old Gaelic model, and has been made especially with three supporters, a sword, a brush and a pen. All round are quotations from my father, from me and one from Randolph, about Ulster. I wish some of these dirty Tory hacks, who would like to drive me out of the Party, could see this trophy.” (Gilbert, Vol. V, p.1029)

Craig continued to support Churchill. On 4 July 1939 (a date with still other complex post-colonial overtones), even as Chamberlain remained determined to keep Churchill out of the Government, Craigavon wrote to Churchill: “I earnestly hope we will not have long to wait till the Country has your services at its full disposal.”

In both April 1939 and May 1940, Craig called for conscription to be applied in Northern Ireland. Fearing a nationalist backlash, the British government refused.

Lord Craigavon died in office on 24 November 1940, six months after Churchill became wartime Prime Minister.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

Edition

The first edition is most commonly found in orange paper wraps. A much rarer version of the first edition was issued in a cased (hardcover) binding, featuring a bright orange coarse cloth. Churchill’s bibliographer, Ronald I. Cohen, states: “Since cased copies were, in principle, destined for library use rather than general public consumption, I expect that copies in the original cloth binding represented the number which the publisher thought would be bought institutionally.”

A second printing of the first edition was issued in the same month as the first printing. It is identical to the first printing apart from notation of the second printing on the title page verso. According to Cohen: “Few cased copies of the second printing are known... They would be the result of the need to supply more copies of the library-edition format than the remaining number of first-printing copies available.” This inscribed presentation copy is one of those very few - a hardcover first edition, second and final printing.

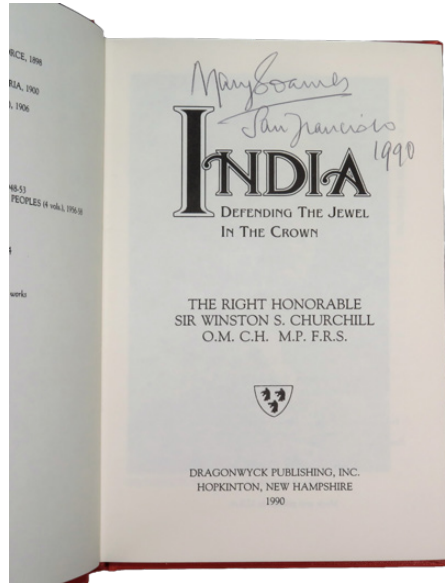
Reference: Cohen A92.1.d, Woods/ICS A38(a.2), Langworth p.150 [CBC #004418]

\$6,500 USD

India

The finely bound, limited, and numbered issue of the U.S. first edition, copy number 15 of 100, signed and dated in the year of publication by Churchill's youngest daughter, Baroness Mary Soames

Dragonwyck Publishing, Hopkinton, New Hampshire, 1990



This is the scarce, finely bound, limited and numbered issue of the U.S. first edition. This copy is not only in exceptional condition, but is also signed and dated by Winston Churchill's youngest daughter in the year of publication.

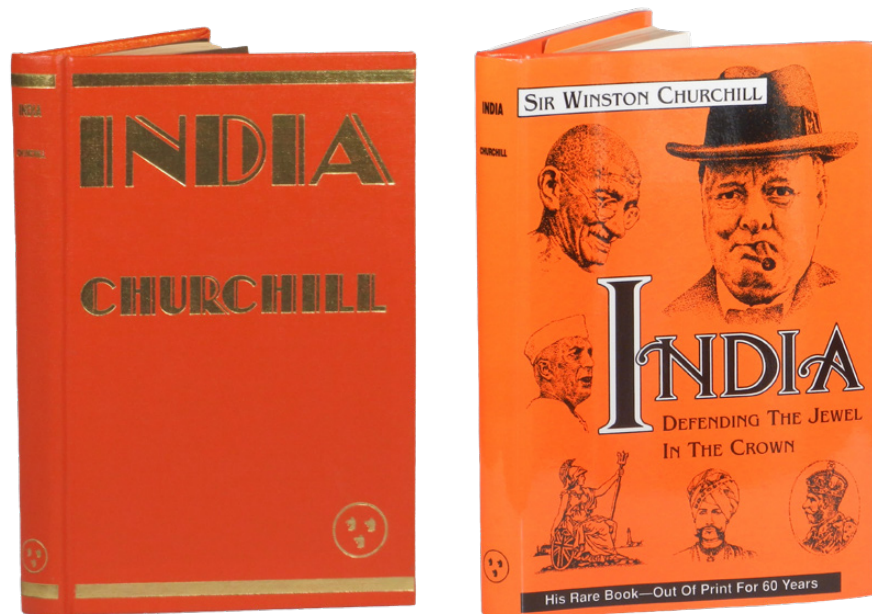
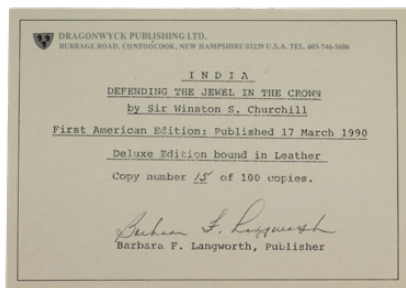
Both printings of the British first edition were issued in 1931. Atypical for most Churchill first editions, there was no concurrent U.S. first edition. Instead, this U.S. first edition was not issued until 1990. Most copies of the British first edition were bound in orange paper wraps (reproduced within the text of this U.S. first edition). A small number of British first editions were issued in a hardcover binding. Nearly all copies of the U.S. first edition of 1990 were bound in an exacting reproduction of the cloth hardcover variant binding of the British first edition. Only 100 copies of the U.S. first edition – 5 percent of the 2,000 published – were bound thus, in orange leather blocked gilt in all places that were blocked black or blind on the standard edition, and bound with all page edges gilt, head and tail bands, and a gold satin ribbon marker. These copies were often issued in the same dust jacket as the standard binding, but price-clipped by the publisher. Laid into each of these 100 copies is a publisher's printed limitation card, signed and hand-numbered by the publisher.

Two things differentiate this copy from its 99 peers. Of minor note, the dust jacket is unclipped, retaining the original "\$35.00" front flap price – which of course was significantly less than the purchase price for this finely bound, limited, and numbered issue. Second and more significantly, this copy is signed by Baroness Mary Soames. Her signature, inked in three lines on the upper title page, reads "Mary Soames | San Francisco | 1990". Baroness Mary Soames, nee Mary Spencer-Churchill (1922-2014), was the youngest and longest-lived of Winston and Clementine's five children. She was raised at Chartwell. During the Second World War, Mary joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service, serving in anti-aircraft batteries. Later in the war, Mary accompanied her father on several of his journeys abroad, including his journey to Quebec and the Potsdam summit with Truman and Stalin. She demobilized in 1946 and, in February 1947, Winston walked Mary up the aisle when she married Arthur Christopher John Soames.

The limitation card in this copy specifies "15" of 100. Condition is fine. The tight and clean binding shows no wear or soiling. The contents are immaculate with no previous ownership marks. The unclipped dust jacket is crisp and complete, with no appreciable toning of the vivid orange hue. The jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.

Reference: Cohen A92.2.a, Woods/ICS A38(b), Langworth p.152 [CBC #006892]

\$1,200 USD



Thoughts and Adventures / Amid These Storms

This is Churchill's collection of 23 engaging essays on an incredibly wide variety of subjects. It has been called "The broadest range of Churchill's thought between hard covers" and reflects the two qualities that so characterize Churchill's life - a remarkable breadth of both mind and life experience.

The original front flap blurb rather captures the spirit of the work: "Whether he is dealing with personal reminiscences, or telling us his views on any subject under the sun, Mr. Churchill stamps the page with his own vivid personality." Another contemporary blurb encapsulates – as far as is possible – the wide range of the chapters within: "These true stories concern such things as the tides that make a politician change his mind; the domination of chance in human lives; the cartoonists who mocked Churchill; the chances and events that occurred while he was in the trenches; phases of the war seen from intimate participation with the high commands; flying experiences in 1912; the Irish; the future; and contemporary change."

The content ranges from musing both personal and political to prescient speculating on the future. In a 31 May 1932 letter to his publisher about the book, Churchill characterized it thus: "... although there is no one single theme, it has some of the best things in it I have ever written."

Though not so noted in the table of contents, the first edition is illustrated. In addition to the frontispiece photograph of Churchill seated and painting, the chapter "Cartoons and Cartoonists" reproduces six cartoons in black and white, five of these featuring Churchill. "Just as eels are supposed to get used to skinning, so politicians get used to being caricatured... when the cartoons stop... They fear old age and obsolescence are creeping upon them. They murmur: 'We are not mauled and maltreated as we used to be. The great days are ended.'" (*Thoughts and Adventures*, pages 27-28) There are also two small maps at p. 151.

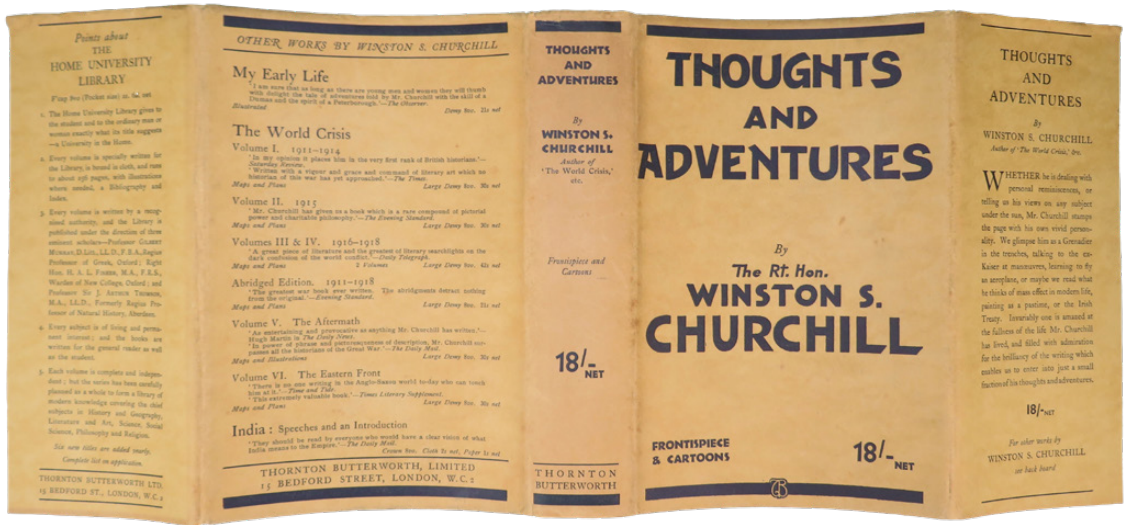
In Britain, the work was published on 10 November 1932, compellingly wrapped in a plain but attractive tan dust jacket with bold black print. *Thoughts and Adventures* was published in the U.S. as *Amid These Storms* on 25 November 1932. This work is one of the few Churchill first editions for which the U.S. edition features a different title than the British.

While the British and U.S. first feature the same content, they differ significantly in appearance. Where the British first edition is subdued, in its khaki cloth and tan dust jacket, the U.S. first edition is arresting, bound in bright orange-red cloth. The dust jacket for *Amid These Storms* is entirely unique and strikingly so. It features a full-length photo of Churchill in Flanders in 1916, wearing his French Poilu's helmet. This image appears on both the spine and front face.

The binding of *Amid These Storms* matches the style of the 1930 U.S. first edition of *A Roving Commission* (published as *My Early Life* in Britain). Indeed the U.S. publisher, Charles Scribner, regarded this book as a sort of sequel to *A Roving Commission* (19 May 1932 letter from Scribner to Churchill).

28

Thoughts and Adventures
Thornton Butterworth Limited, London, 1932



This is an extraordinary jacketed copy of the first edition, first printing – the finest we have encountered, housed in a full tan Morocco goatskin Solander.

The khaki cloth unique to the first printing of this edition is notoriously prone to scuffing, wear, and soiling, the contents proved highly susceptible to spotting, and the first printing dust jacket has become quite scarce in anything approaching collector-worthy condition. This copy is truly fine in a near fine dust jacket.

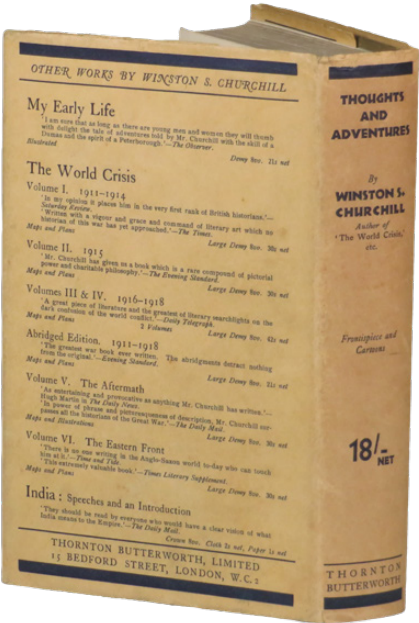
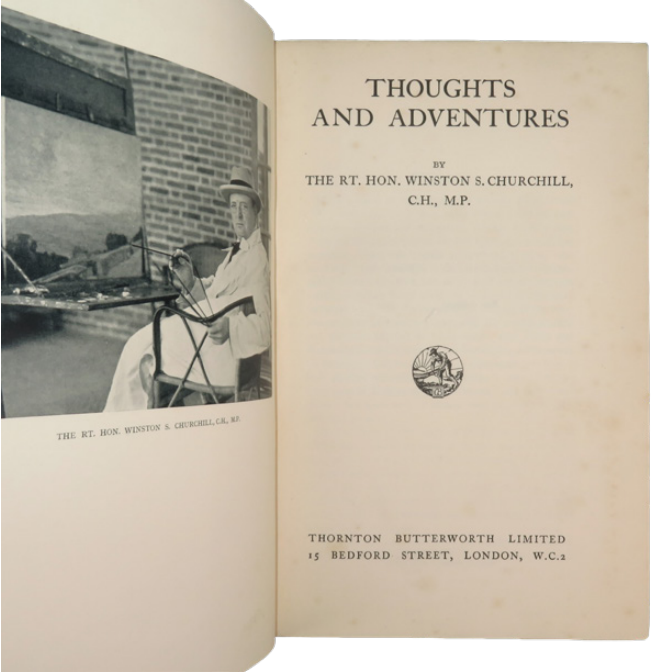
The dust jacket is unique to the first printing, with distinctive differences to later printings (and even some later first printings). This dust jacket is entirely complete and strikingly clean. We note only fractional wear to extremities – mostly just a tiny bit of wrinkling at the spine head – and a few tiny blemishes. Spine presentation is impressive, with no appreciable toning and only incidental soiling, mostly confined to the lower front joint. The jacket is protected within a clear, removable, archival cover.

The book beneath is magnificently clean and bright as only the best jacketed copies can be. The khaki cloth binding is exceptional – square, immaculately clean, and vividly bright with sharp corners and only the most trivial hints of shelf wear, entirely confined to the edges. The contents are crisp and bright. The book feels unread. We find no previous ownership marks. Most impressive, we find no spotting. Even the fore and bottom edges are immaculate, the top edge showing just a little shelf dust.

The book is housed in a tan Morocco goatskin Solander with rounded spine, raised spine bands, twin black spine labels, and tan, suede-lined interior. Condition of the Solander is as new.

Reference: Cohen A95.1.b, Woods/ICS A39(aa.1), Langworth p.156. [CBC #7229]

\$6,200 USD

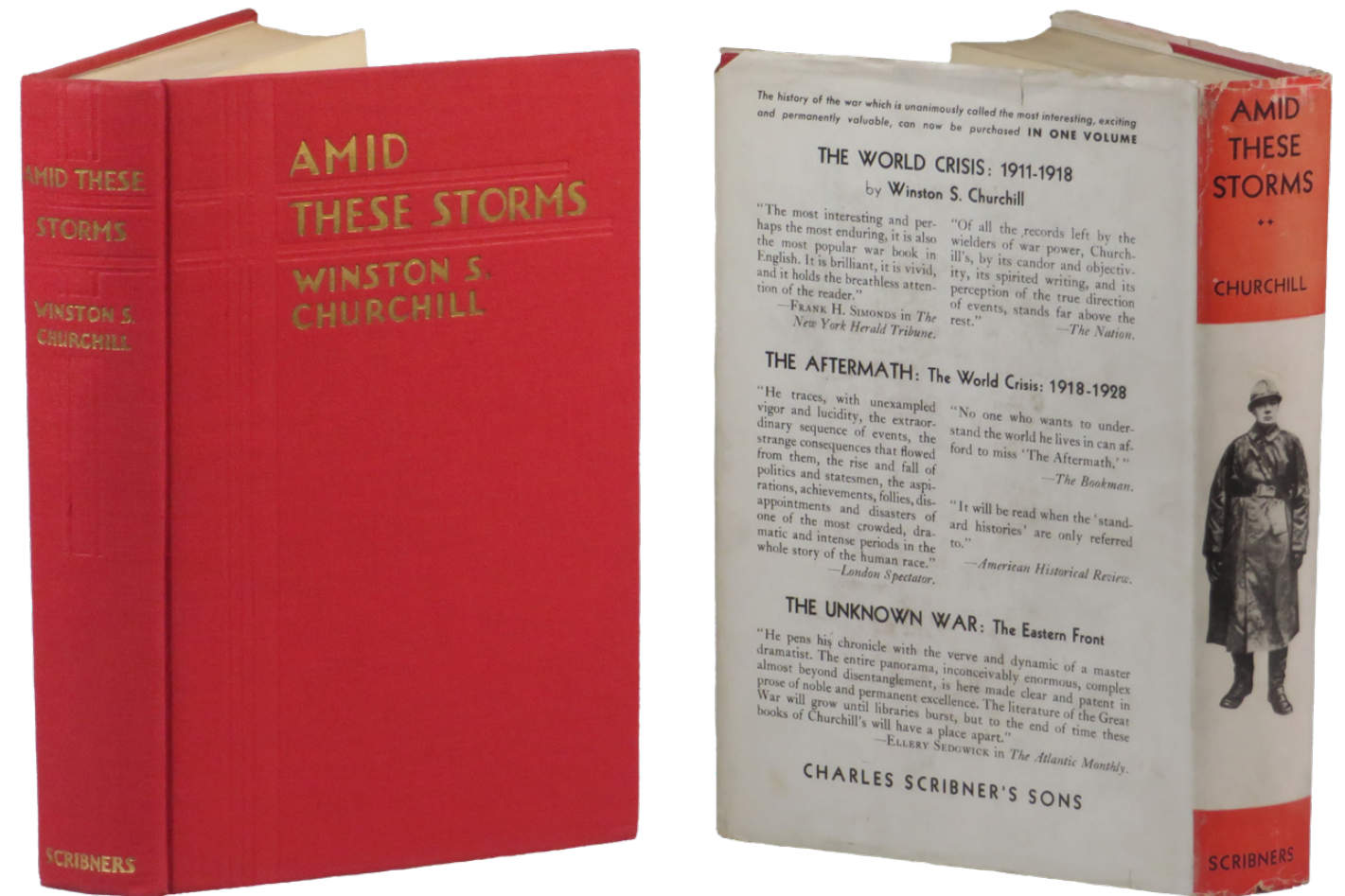
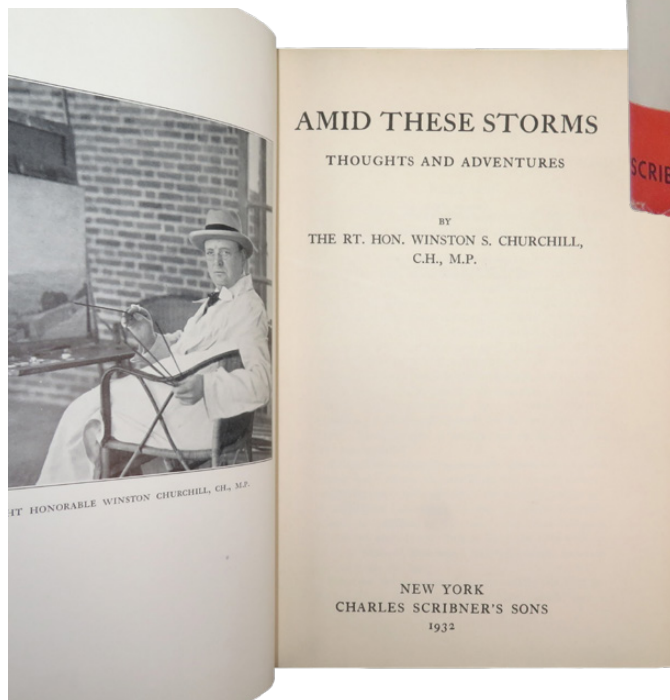
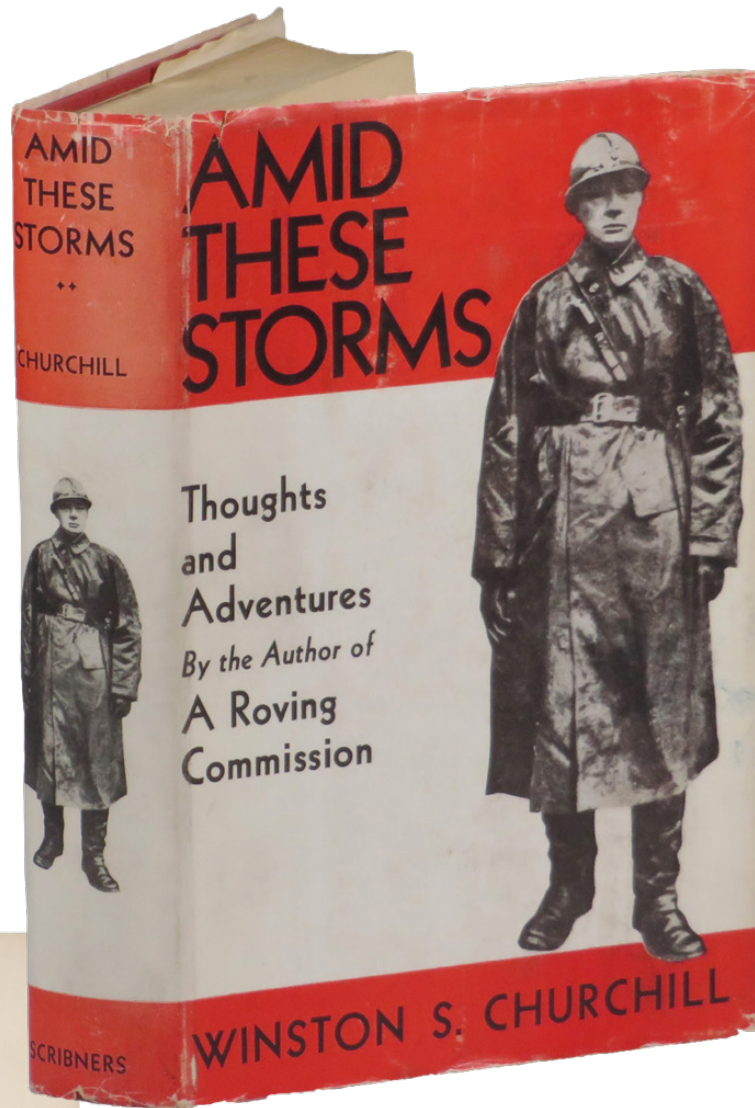


29

*Amid These Storms**Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1932*

This is the finest jacketed example of the U.S. first edition, only printing we have encountered.

Published in Britain as *Thoughts and Adventures*, this is one of the few Churchill first editions for which the U.S. edition features a different title than the British. The U.S. first edition text was photo-reproduced from the British first edition, but everything else about the edition differs markedly from its British counterpart. The bright red-orange coarse cloth binding of *Amid These Storms* matches the style of the 1930 U.S. first edition of *A Roving Commission* but the dust jacket for *Amid These Storms* is strikingly unique. It features a full-length photo of Churchill in Flanders in 1916, wearing his French Poilu's helmet. This image appears on both the spine and front face. The orange color on the dust jacket and the red-orange binding proved exceptionally prone to sunning. Further, both the coarse cloth binding and the white fields of the dust jacket proved quite susceptible to soiling. Jacketed copies are scarce and truly bright copies are a rarity; most copies look like they spent time in the trenches with Churchill.



This copy is gorgeously clean, better than near fine, in an impressively bright and complete dust jacket. The red-orange cloth binding is not only square and tight with sharp corners, but also vividly bright, both the gilt and binding undimmed, the coarse cloth improbably clean. The contents are nearly as impressively bright, with no previous ownership marks and no spotting. The otherwise clean untrimmed fore edges show only mild age-toning and the top edges just a little shelf dust. The unclipped dust jacket retains the original "\$3.50" front flap price and shows only fractional loss at the flap fold and spine extremities. The orange spine panels are as bright as we have seen, with only barely discernible color shift between the faces and spine. The jacket is also uncommonly clean, the white panels showing only trivial hits of soiling. Wear is minor, primarily confined to tiny chips, wrinkles, and closed tears to the jacket's perimeter. While not perfect, this jacket is likely as good as it gets - a markedly clean, substantially complete, and beautifully bright example. The dust jacket is protected with a removable, clear, archival cover.

Reference: Cohen A95.2, Woods/ICS A39(ba), Langworth p.158. [CBC #007230]

\$2,250 USD

30

Marlborough: His Life and Times

The publisher's signed, limited, finely bound issue of the first edition, one of only five unnumbered sets and the only one marked "Presentation" and not only signed by Churchill, but also inscribed and dated by the publisher George G. Harrap & Co., Ltd., London, 1933-1938

This signed, limited, and finely bound publisher's presentation set of Churchill's *Marlborough* would be remarkable for condition alone, but this is also one of just five unnumbered sets reserved by the publisher. This is the only one of the five known to be hand-marked as "Presentation". Churchill signed just below the limitation statement "Winston S. Churchill". But this copy is also inscribed by the publisher. Just above Churchill's signature in the space where the limitation number would normally be written, the word "Presentation" is inked. On the half title, in four lines in the publisher's hand, is inked the inscription "To Steve | from | George | 1933."

Marlborough: His Life and Times

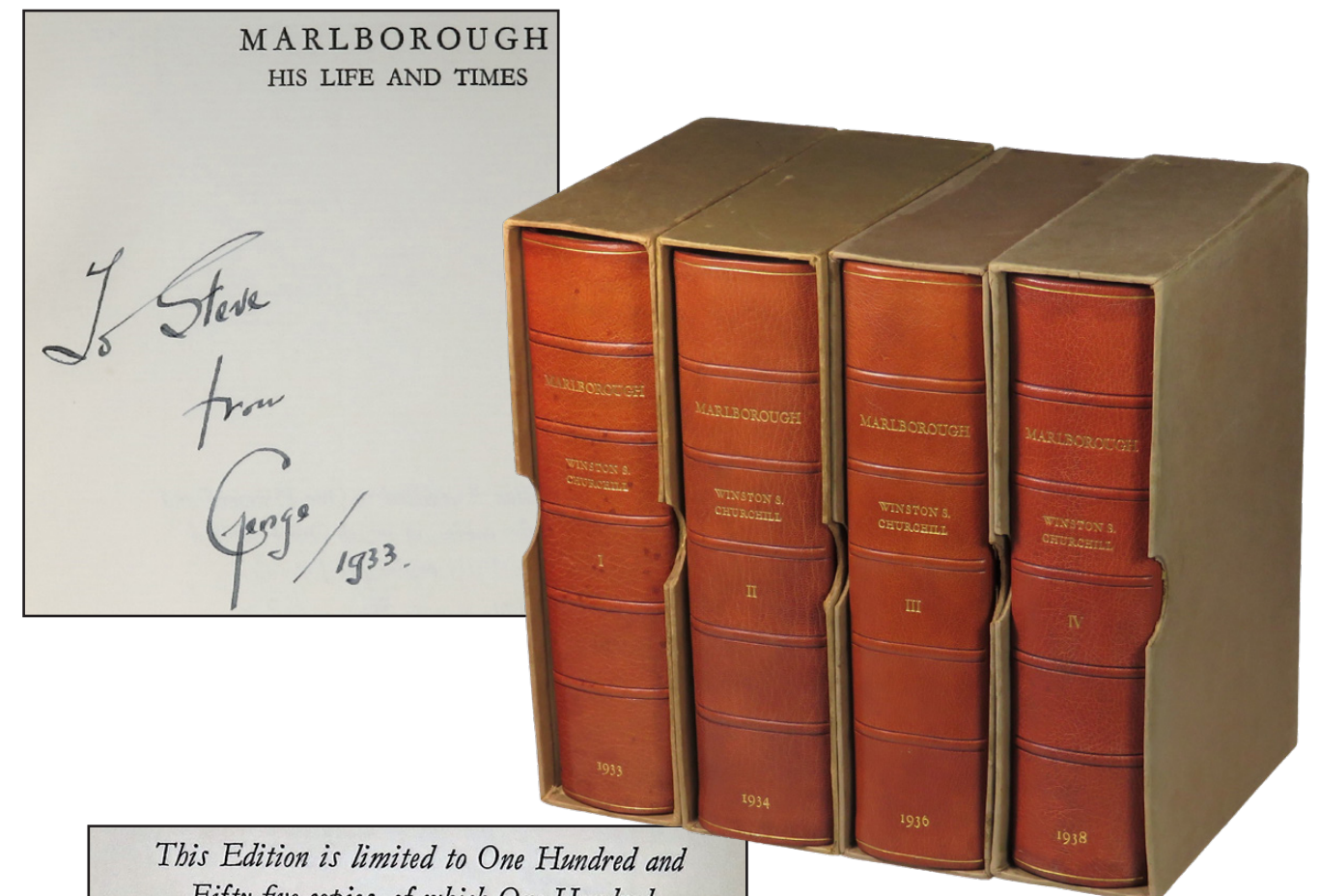
Churchill's monumental biography of his great ancestor, John Churchill, the first Duke of Marlborough, was initially conceived a full 40 years before publication of the fourth and final volume. Churchill originally considered the idea of the biography in 1898, returning to it in earnest in 1928.

Marlborough ultimately took 10 years of research and writing and is the most substantial published work of Churchill's "wilderness years" in the 1930s, which he spent politically isolated, often at odds with both his own party and prevailing public sentiment. This decade saw Churchill pass into his sixties with his own future as uncertain as that of his nation. Churchill may have supposed that the life history he was writing would eclipse his own.

Few would accuse Churchill of objectivity. Nonetheless, as a work of history *Marlborough* drew high praise. Upon reading the proofs, James Lewis Garvin, editor of *The Observer*, wrote "I think it to be... the greatest of all your works... Your full brush has never had more mastery over space and colour..." Two months after Volume I was published, on 12 December 1933, T.E. Lawrence wrote to Churchill: "I finished it only yesterday. I wish I had not... The skeleton of the book is so good. Its parts balance and the main stream flows... *Marlborough* has the big scene-painting, the informed pictures of men, the sober comment on political method, the humour, irony and understanding... It is history, solemn and decorative." When Churchill was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1953, it was partly for "mastery of historical and biographical description" on the strength of *Marlborough*, which was specifically cited and quoted by the Swedish Academy.

The first volume was published in 1933, the fourth and final volume in 1938, almost exactly one year before the outbreak of the Second World War and Churchill's return to the Cabinet to reprise his First World War role as First Lord of the Admiralty. Twenty months after the final volume was published Churchill became wartime prime minister. This may explain why it has been said: "To understand the Churchill of the Second World War... one has to read *Marlborough*. Only in its pages can one glean an understanding of the root of the speeches which inspired Britain to stand when she had little to stand with." (Langworth, *A Connoisseur's Guide to the Books of Sir Winston Churchill*, p.164)

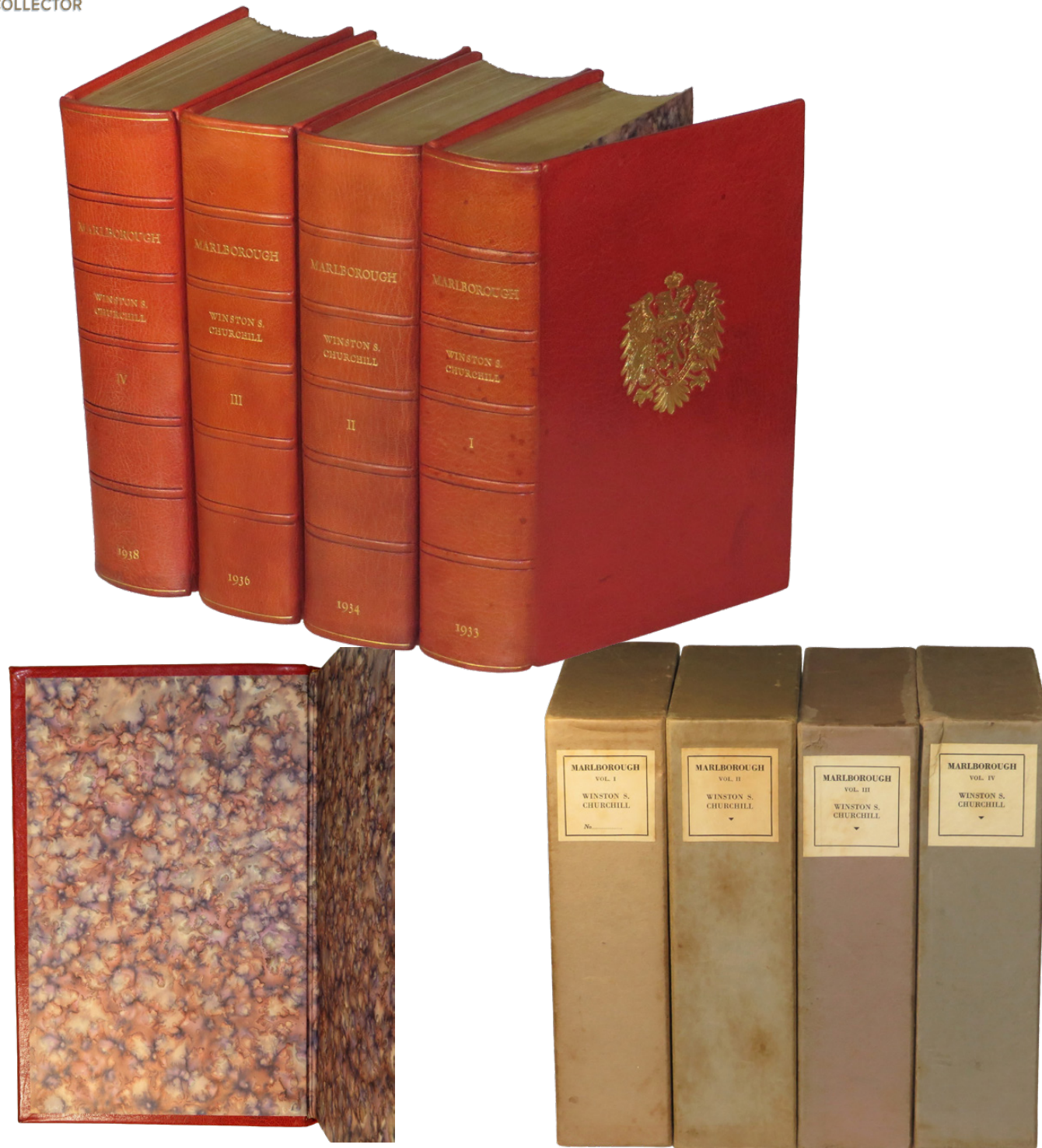
The publication details, including various bindings, varying number of volumes, varying dust jacket states, and a finely bound and signed limited issue of the first edition (the only such in the Churchill canon), make sussing British and U.S. editions more complicated than one might suppose.



This Edition is limited to One Hundred and Fifty-five copies, of which One Hundred and Fifty copies are for sale.

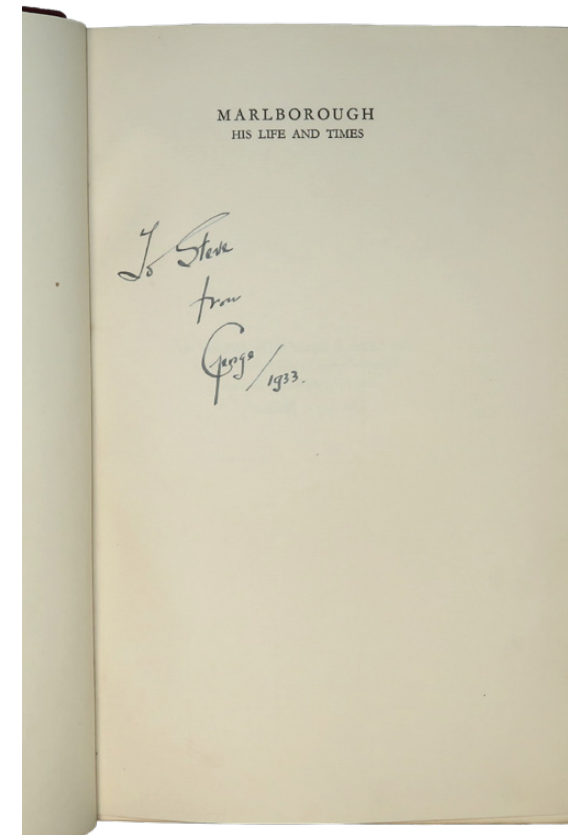
This copy is *Presentation*

Winston Churchill



Condition is excellent, approaching near fine. The spines are only lightly sunned, that of Volume I showing a few freckles. Light spotting appears primarily confined to the untrimmed fore edges, only occasionally and lightly encroaching into the text blocks. The card slipcases are fully intact with only light shelf wear, the back of the Volume II case slightly spotted.

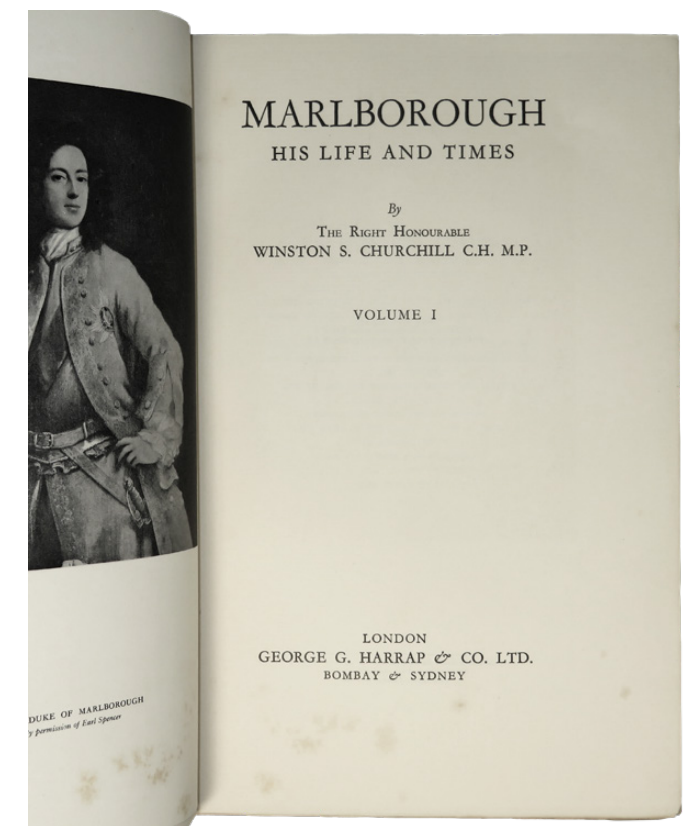
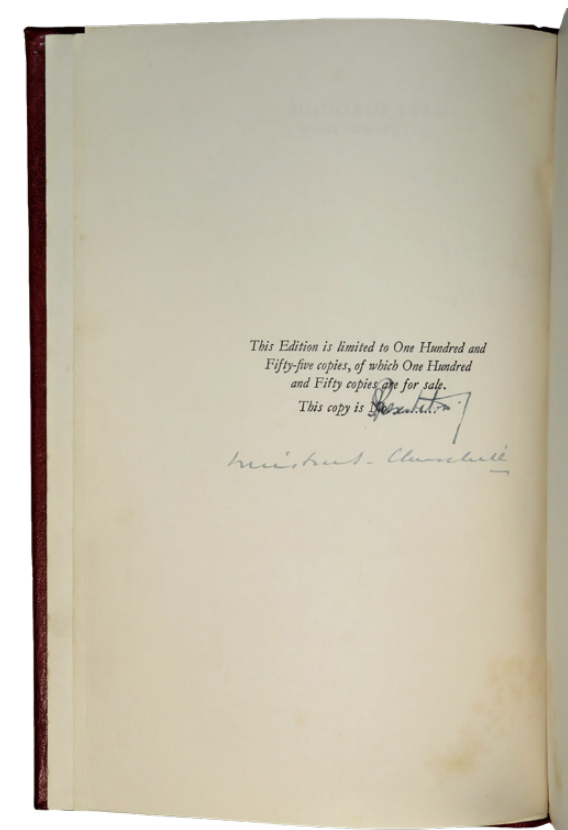
As kindly confirmed by the Harrap family, "George" is George Steward Harrap, son of Harrap's founder, George Godfrey Harrap, who died in 1938, the year the fourth and final volume of *Marlborough* was published. George Steward Harrap's son stated it "highly likely" that "Steve" was the artist and illustrator Stephen Frederick Gooden R.A., R.E., C.B.E. (1892-1955), a close friend of the younger Harrap. Gooden not only illustrated a number of Harrap books – notably their Aesop and Rubaiyat – but also designed the elder Harrap's bookplate, featuring a winged horse clearing the bar of an "H". This was a clever conception, since a colloquial British term for horse was "gee-gee", these being the initials of George Godfrey.



Churchill's *Marlborough* is the only work by Churchill for which the publisher issued a signed, limited, and finely bound first edition. Harrap produced 155 signed sets, printed on thick, laid paper with untrimmed fore and bottom edges and sumptuously bound by Leighton Straker in reddish-orange Niger Morocco with gilt top edges, head and tail bands, and marbled endpapers. Volume I of each set was signed by Churchill on the limitation page and each volume was issued in a gray cardboard slipcase with paper spine labels, the Volume I labels also featuring the set number. Five sets were unnumbered, reserved as special gifts from either the author or publisher. Both Ronald Cohen and Richard Langworth cite the word "special" handwritten on the colophon. This set is the only one of the five known to be designated "Presentation" – presumably one of a kind.

Reference: Cohen A97.1.a, Woods/ICS A40(a), Langworth p.168. [CBC #006003]

\$27,500 USD

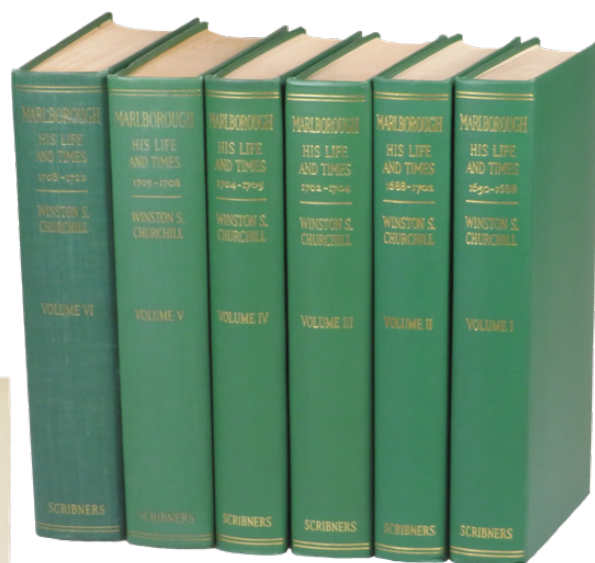
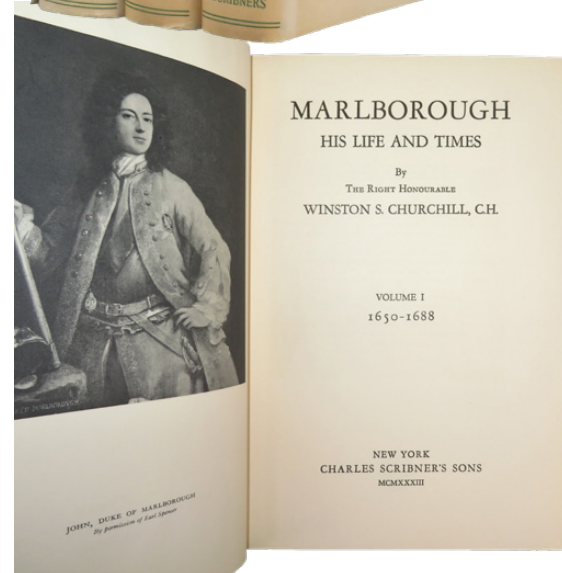


Marlborough: His Life and Times

A full set of six U.S. first edition, first printings in the rare first state dust jackets and slipcases
Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1933-1938

Here is a full set of six U.S. first edition, first printings of Winston Churchill's monumental biography of his great ancestor, John Churchill, the first Duke of Marlborough. This set features the scarce first state dust jackets and slipcases, and is the best we have encountered thus.

The U.S. publisher chose to split the first two volumes into two books each; the six-volume U.S. first edition is identical in content its four-volume British counterpart, but dramatically different in appearance. Moreover, there were two distinctly different states of the U.S. first edition. The first four U.S. volumes were originally issued in two-volume sets, with cream-colored dust jackets featuring green print, each two-volume set housed in an illustrated publisher's slipcase. The fifth volume was originally issued in a white dust jacket with a red-printed design matching that of the two slipcases for volumes I & II and volumes III & IV. Only in 1938, when the sixth and final U.S. volume was published, were the more commonly seen blue and gold dust jackets issued. Today the first state dust jackets are elusive, and the fragile original slipcases doubly so.



This is a full, first state set comprising fine or near fine first printing volumes in very good plus or better dust jackets. All six volumes feature immaculate green cloth bindings and bright contents with no internal spotting or previous ownership marks. The first four volumes are virtually as-new, having been protected by both their original dust jackets and the slipcases. Only Volume V shows some dust soiling and spotting to the top edge. All six dust jackets are unclipped, retaining the original publisher's prices where they appeared and complete, with no appreciable loss. The cream-colored dust jackets of the first four volumes all show mild, uniform spine toning as well as a few trivial blemishes. The edges, specifically the upper top edge of the Volume I & Volume IV front faces, show just a touch of scuffing and tiny closed tears, almost certainly from the jackets catching on the edges of their slipcases. The rear face of Volume III and front face of Volume IV also show mild, uniform transfer browning from contact with the cardboard slipcase interior. The first state Volume V dust jacket is magnificently bright – by far the best example we have ever seen, with only mild soiling to the rear face. The Volume VI dust jacket is also compellingly bright, with excellent shelf presentation and only mild scuffing. All six dust jackets are protected beneath clear, removable, archival covers.

Both slipcases are fully intact, despite inevitable soiling and wear to extremities. Some of the seams are starting, but all still holding together.

Reference: A97.4(I-VI).a, Woods/ICS A40(ba), Langworth p.169 [CBC #007231]

\$3,000 USD

Great Contemporaries

Great Contemporaries is Churchill's much-praised collection of insightful essays about 21 leading personalities of the day - including the likes of Lawrence, Shaw, and, most famously, Hitler.

By no means are these merely hagiographic sketches of friends and supporters. Churchill was just as gracious with political and philosophical opponents. Neville Chamberlain, whose appeasement policies Churchill implacably opposed and whom Churchill would replace as Prime Minister, wrote to Churchill, saying "How can you go on throwing off these sparkling sketches with such apparent ease & such sustained brilliance... is a constant source of wonder to me". (Letter of 4 October 1937) Naturally, in the course of sketching the character of his contemporaries Churchill reveals some of his own character and perspective.

Churchill's portrait of T.E. Lawrence, published here just a few years before the Second World War, might well have been written about the author rather than by him: "The impression of the personality of Lawrence remains living and vivid upon the minds of his friends, and the sense of his loss is in no way dimmed among his countrymen. All feel the poorer that he has gone from us. In these days dangers and difficulties gather upon Britain and her Empire, and we are also conscious of a lack of outstanding figures with which to overcome them. Here was a man in whom there existed not only an immense capacity for service, but that touch of genius which everyone recognizes and no one can define." (*Great Contemporaries*, p.164)

Churchill's piece about Hitler can be a shock to the modern ear, as it underscores his ability to write a balanced appraisal of his subject while expressing his earnest desire to avoid the war that he would fight with such ferocious resolve only a few years later. There is a reason this book has seen many subsequent editions in the intervening years. It was written with what has been called "penetrating evaluation, humor, and understanding."

While some of the subjects of Churchill's sketches have receded into history, many remain well-known and all remain compellingly drawn. This is as engaging a read today as it was in 1937.

The British first edition is bound in blue cloth and wrapped in a bright orange dust jacket that echoes the style of *Thoughts and Adventures* (published five years earlier). The first printing was published on 4 October 1937. Although there were a total of six printings, the first printing dust jacket is unique, with changes to the front flap on the second and subsequent printings.

A U.S. first edition published by G. P. Putnam's Sons followed on 5 November 1937, a month after its British counterpart. This U.S. first edition is entirely different in appearance. The smooth navy cloth binding with red banners, silver print, and red-stained top edge is bound in the same style as subsequent U.S. first editions of *While England Slept* (1938), *Step by Step* (1939), and *Blood, Sweat, and Tears* (1941). The striking U.S. first edition dust jacket features a photo of Churchill and is printed in vivid blue, black, and white. The U.S. edition saw three printings, but as with the British first printing, the dust jacket of the U.S. first printing is unique, with changes to the second and third printings.

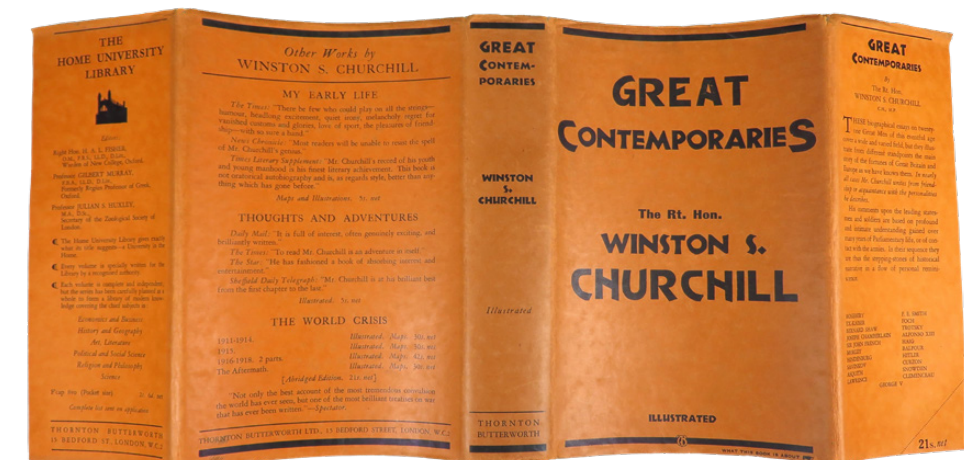
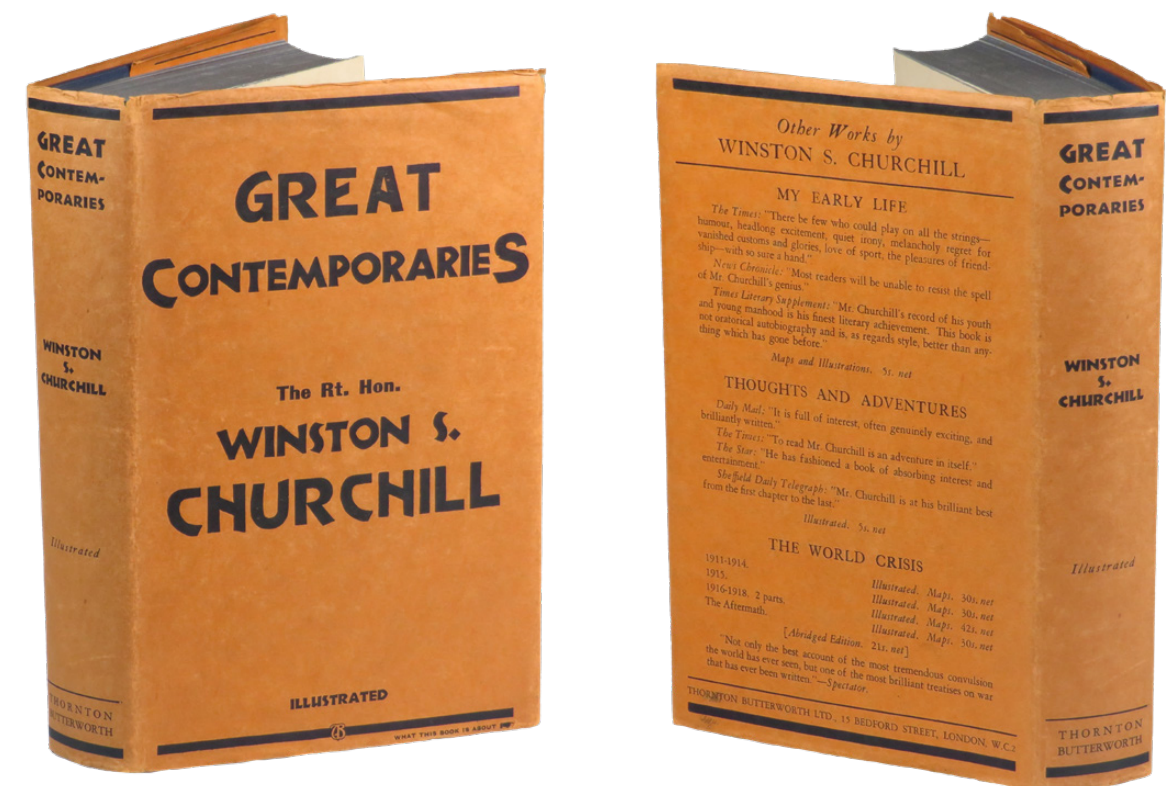
Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

32

Great Contemporaries Thornton Butterworth Limited, London, 1937

This is the finest jacketed copy we have encountered of the British first edition, first printing of Churchill's much-praised collection of insightful essays about 21 leading personalities of the day - including the likes of Lawrence, Shaw, and, most famously, Hitler..

This copy is magnificently fine in a near fine dust jacket. There were six printings of the first edition between October and December of 1937. From the second printing on there are differences to the dust jackets, rendering the first printing dust jacket elusive. This particular first printing dust jacket is not just elusive, but virtually unobtainable thus. The dust jacket is gorgeously bright, unclipped (retaining the original lower front flap price, and all but entirely complete, with only fractional hint of loss at the upper spine corners and flap fold corners. The vivid orange color remains deliciously bright, even on the spine, which shows only the faintest, barely discernible hint of toning. Trivial wear is confined to extremities and soiling is so mild as to be nearly insignificant. The dust jacket is protected beneath a removable, clear, archival cover.

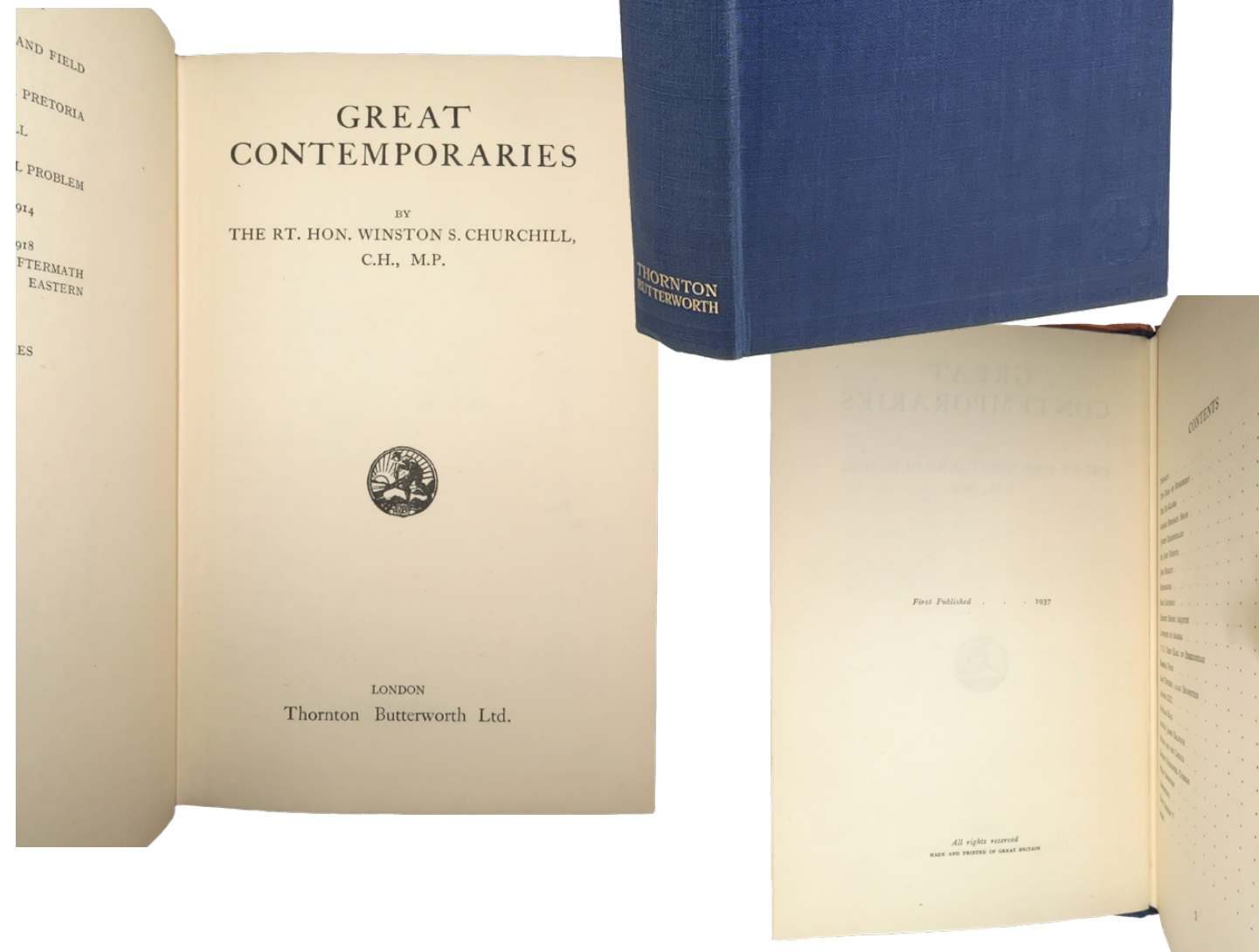


The volume itself is even better than its dust jacket. The blue cloth binding is superlative – immaculately clean, square, and tight, with deep, unfaded blue hue, sharp corners, and no wear. The contents are likewise immaculate – improbably bright and crisp with no spotting, no previous ownership marks, and uniform, dark, unfaded blue top stain. Differential toning to the dust endpapers corresponding to the dust jacket flaps confirms what the magnificent binding already testifies – that this copy has spent life jacketed. The book feels unread and, if not for the evidence of time in the toning of the endpapers, could practically pass as new.

This exceptional copy is housed in a full navy blue Morocco goatskin Solander case with rounded spine and silver spine print.

Reference: Cohen A105.1.a, Woods/ICS A43(a.1), Langworth p.178. [CBC #007232]

\$5,600 USD



33

Great Contemporaries

G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1937

This is a jacketed first U.S. edition, first printing, of Churchill's much praised collection of insightful essays about 21 leading personalities of the day - including the likes of Lawrence, Shaw, and, most famously, Hitler.

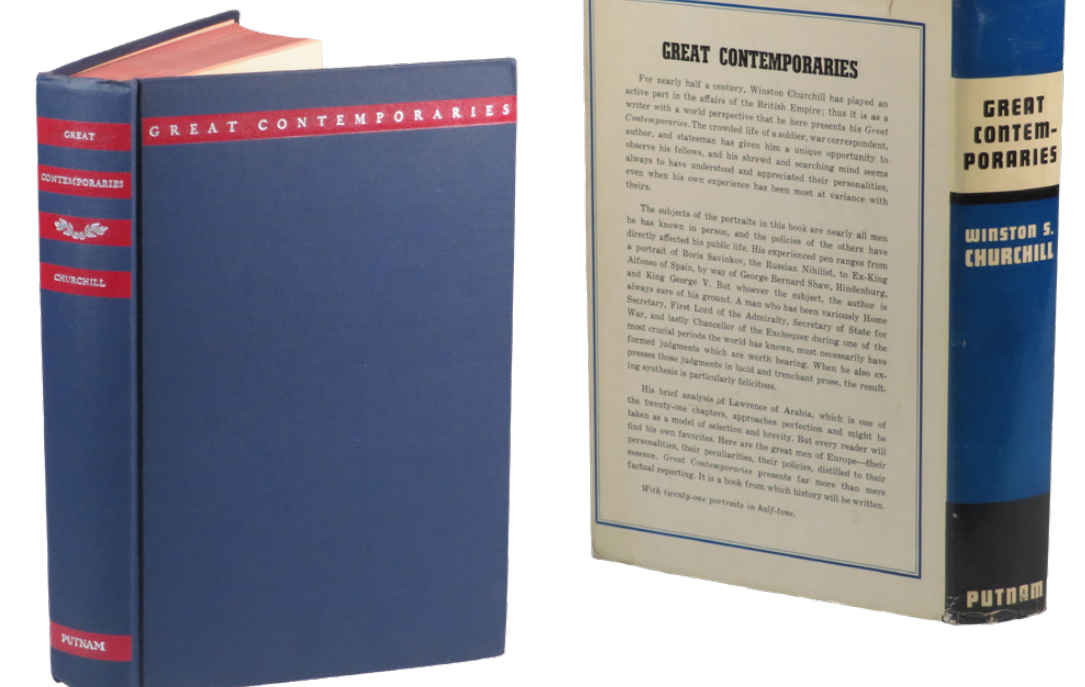
While not quite perfect, this is certainly the best copy we have encountered. Condition is better than near fine in a dust jacket approaching near fine. The blue cloth binding is square, tight, and immaculately clean. We note only mild bruising to the lower corners and some wrinkling to the spine ends. The contents are improbably bright and crisp. The book feels unread. The red top stain remains vividly bright. The untrimmed fore edges are likewise improbably clean, showing not even any appreciable age-toning. Only the endpapers show a little transfer browning – from the pastedown glue. The sole previous ownership marks are contemporary – a man's name, "Los Angeles" address, and "1938" date inked on the front pastedown, with this owner's presumed wife (same surname) having inked her own name and a date of "March 12, 1938" on the half title.

The deep blue hue of this dust jacket's spine and front face proved prone to toning and the paper of the jacket prone to brittleness and consequent loss. This jacket is beautifully bright, the blue hue entirely unfaded. Moreover, the jacket is notably clean and highly complete, with wear – including some short, closed tears, attendant wrinkling, and only fractional chipping – confined to extremities. The dust jacket is neatly price-clipped, but compensates with the sticker of the Los Angeles bookshop that originally sold it and their price of "\$4.00" (the original publisher's price) affixed to the upper rear flap. The jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.

Reference: Cohen A105.2.a, Woods/ICS A43(ab.1), Langworth p.179

[CBC #007233]

\$1,000 USD



Arms and the Covenant / While England Slept

Arms and the Covenant is the precursor to Churchill's famous war speeches. The book contains text from 41 Churchill speeches spanning 25 October 1928 to 24 March 1938. These criticize British foreign policy and warn prophetically of the coming danger that became the Second World War.

The speeches were compiled by Churchill's son, Randolph, who contributed a preface and is credited with compilation on the title page and jacket spine. Randolph would do the same for his father's first volume of war speeches, *Into Battle*, published in an almost unrecognizable world less than three years later. "Covenant" in the title refers to the League of Nations Covenant, the instrument conceived to maintain peace in the wake of the First World War.

The world remembers the resolute war leader to whom the British turned, but it is easy to overlook the years leading up to the war which Churchill spent persistent, eloquent, and largely unheeded, often at odds with both his own political party and prevailing public sentiment. This book has been called "the permanent record of one man's unceasing struggle in the face of resentment, apathy, and complacency" and "probably the most crucial volume of speeches that he ever published." As testimony to the book's importance, a copy of the U.S. edition lay on "President Roosevelt's bedside table, with key passages, including an analysis of the president's peace initiative, underscored." (William Manchester, *The Last Lion*, p.305).

The British first edition saw only a single printing of 5,000 copies published on 24 June 1938. Of these, at least 3,381 and perhaps more than 4,000 were sold with a distinctive pale blue first state dust jacket.

The balance - no more than 1,619 copies and quite likely fewer - were offered at a lower price in June 1940, wrapped in a striking yellow dust jacket. Because the price was reduced with the yellow dust jacket, this has often been called by bibliographers the "Cheap" issue. Given that Churchill had just become Prime Minister in May 1940, it might be more fittingly and flatteringly called the "I Told You So" issue. The yellow dust jackets were issued on heavy, yellow laid paper printed red on the front face and spine with a blank rear face and rear flap. Given the yellow paper and red print, they proved quite susceptible to soiling and the red spine lettering is nearly always quite faded.

A U.S. first edition was published at the end of September 1938, by which time the world was closer to war and Churchill closer to vindication. Whether it was the march of global events, sensationalist U.S. marketing sensibilities, or just comparative American candor, Putnam's suggested the U.S. title *While England Slept*. Thus, the U.S. first edition is one of the few Churchill first editions for which the U.S. title differs from the British.

The U.S. first edition is bound in smooth navy cloth with red banners, silver print, and red-stained top edge in the same style as the preceding U.S. first edition of *Great Contemporaries* (1937) and the succeeding U.S. first editions of *Step by Step* (1939) and *Blood, Sweat, and Tears* (1941). The striking U.S. first edition dust jacket features a photo of Churchill and is printed in vivid red, black, and white. The U.S. edition saw four printings. The first and second printing dust jackets are identical, with changes to the third and fourth printings.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

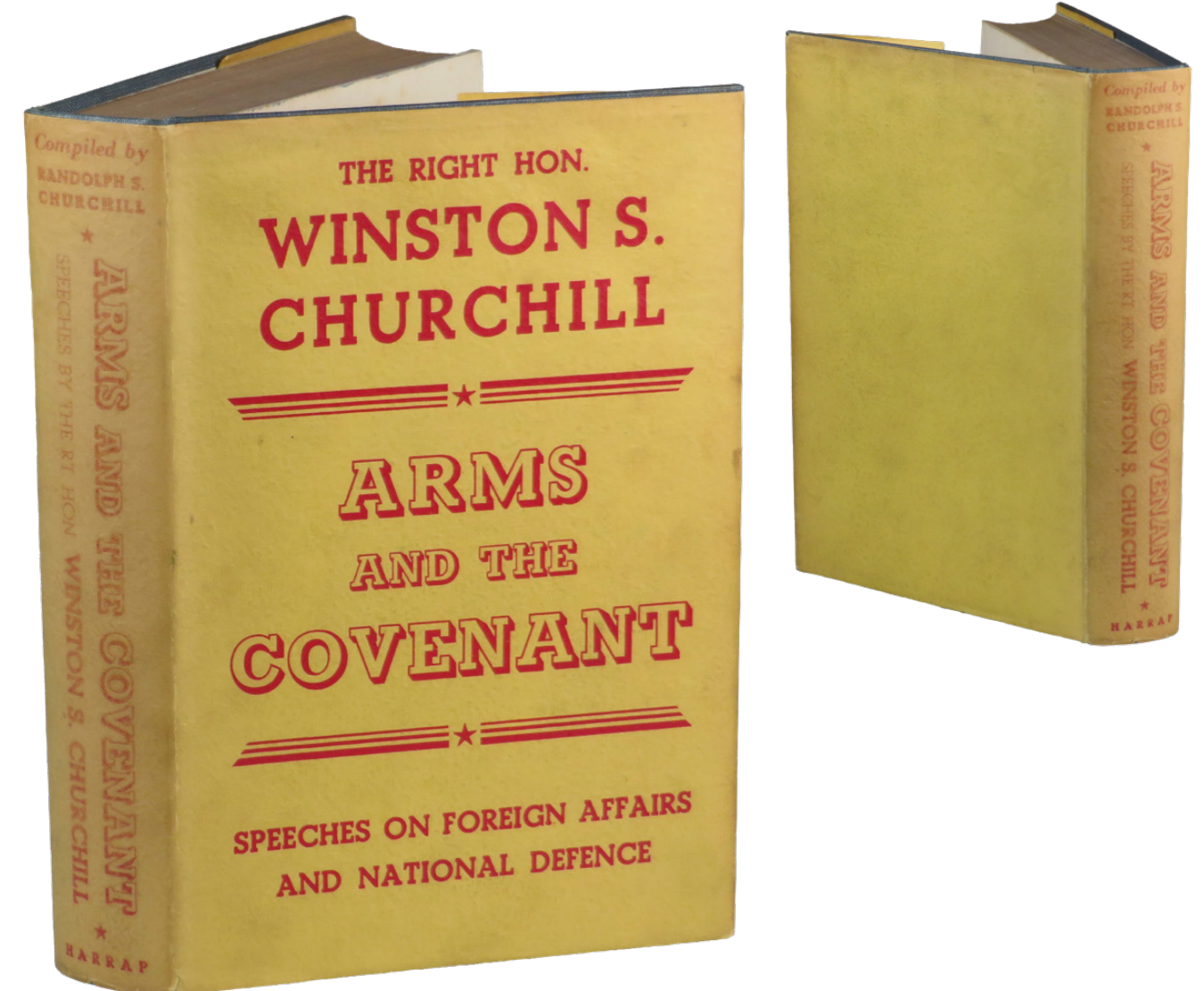
34

Arms and the Covenant

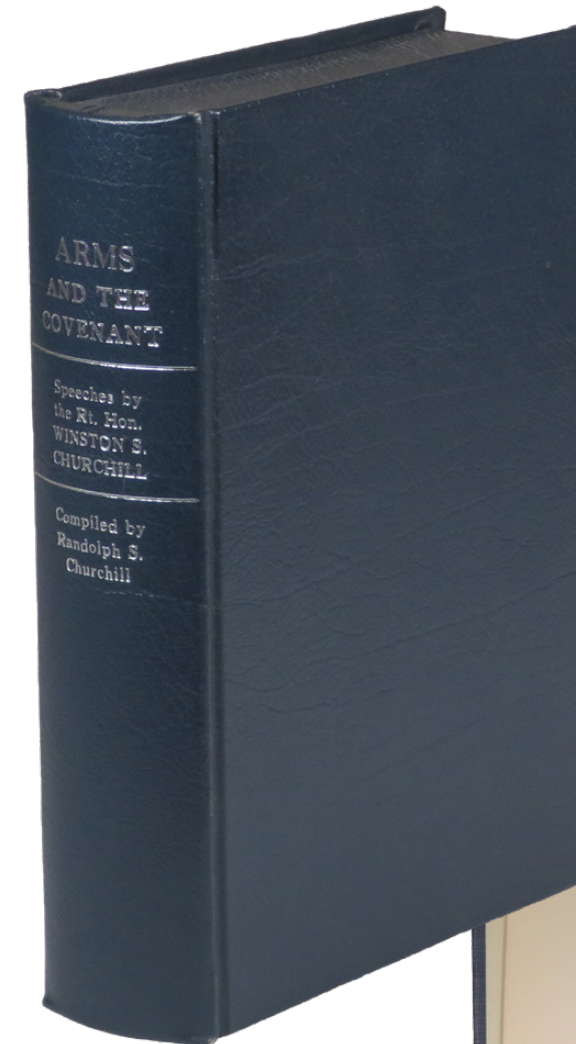
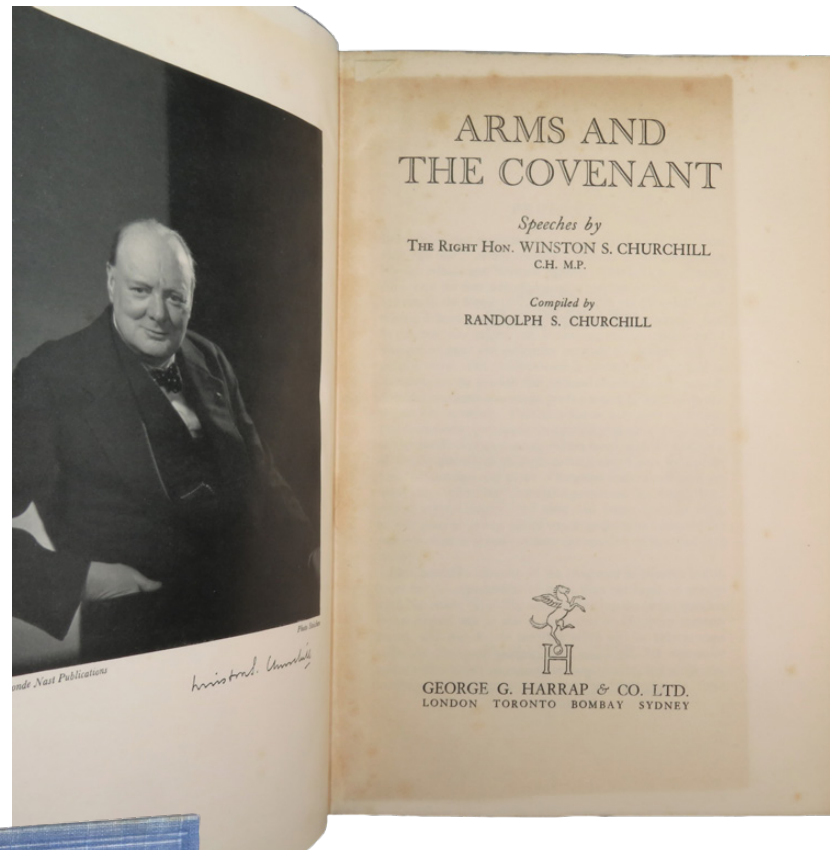
In the striking wartime dust jacket
George G. Harrap & Co., Ltd., London, 1938

This is the precursor to Churchill's great war speeches, the British first edition in the striking yellow dust jacket issued just after Churchill became Prime Minister. The book contains a collection of speeches spanning the years 1928 to 1938, criticizing British foreign policy, Churchill's warnings and exhortations both prophetic and largely unheeded.

Of 5,000 copies of this first and only British impression, no more than 1,619 copies and quite likely fewer - were offered at a lower price in June 1940, featuring a yellow dust jacket. Because the price was reduced with the yellow dust jacket, this has often been called by bibliographers the "Cheap" issue. Given that Churchill had just become Prime Minister in May 1940, it might be more fittingly called the "I Told You So" issue. These yellow, wartime dust jackets are considerably more scarce than their pale blue first issue counterparts, and particularly scarce in respectable condition.



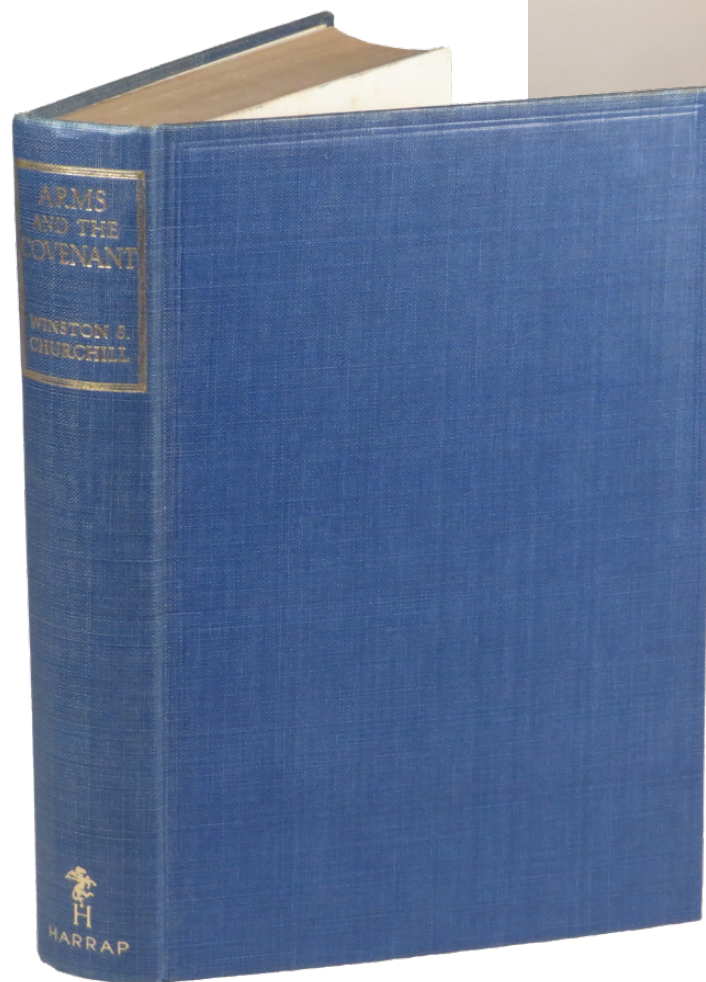
While not fine, this is the best overall copy we have encountered. Most notable, the yellow dust jacket is entirely complete – retaining the original lower front flap price and with no loss. Moreover, while the red spine print suffers some sunning, it remains distinct and clearly legible, rendering shelf presentation quite impressive. The completeness of the jacket and legibility of the red spine print more than compensates for the overall soiling. Trivial wear is confined to extremities. The jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.



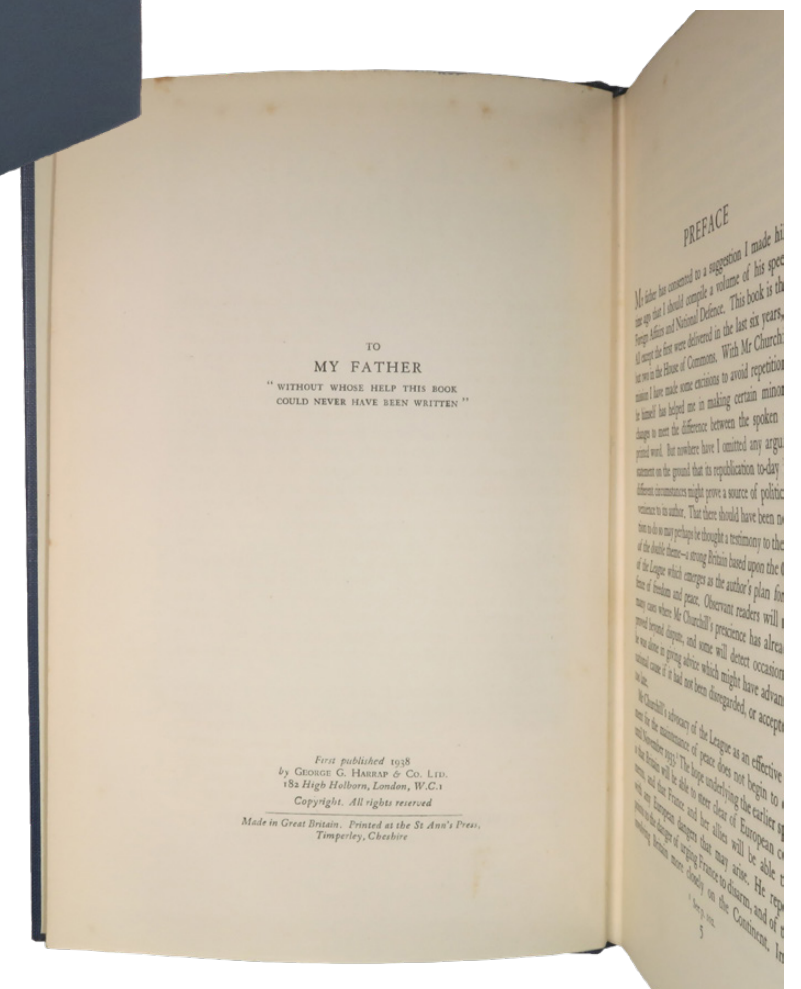
The book is housed in a full navy Morocco goatskin Solander with round spine and silver print. Condition of the Solander is fine, with no wear, soiling, or fading.

Reference: Cohen A107.3, Woods/ICS A44(a), Langworth p.192. [CBC #007234]

\$2,850 USD



The volume beneath is very good plus. The binding is compellingly fresh – square, clean, bright, and tight with sharp corners, vivid spine gilt, and no appreciable wear or blemishes. The contents are less impressive than the binding but still quite good – clean with a crisp, unread feel despite some mild age-toning. Differential toning to the endpapers corresponding to the dust jacket flaps confirms what the lovely binding already testifies – that this copy has spent life jacketed. We find no previous ownership marks. Light spotting appears confined to the first and final leaves. A rectangle of differential toning to the title page indicates that a news clipping or something similar – now lost – was long laid in. The blue topstain is uniformly dulled.

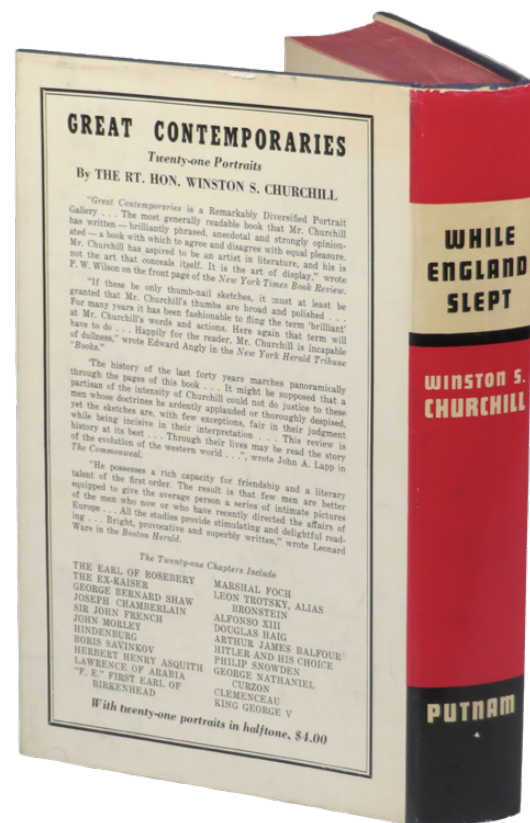
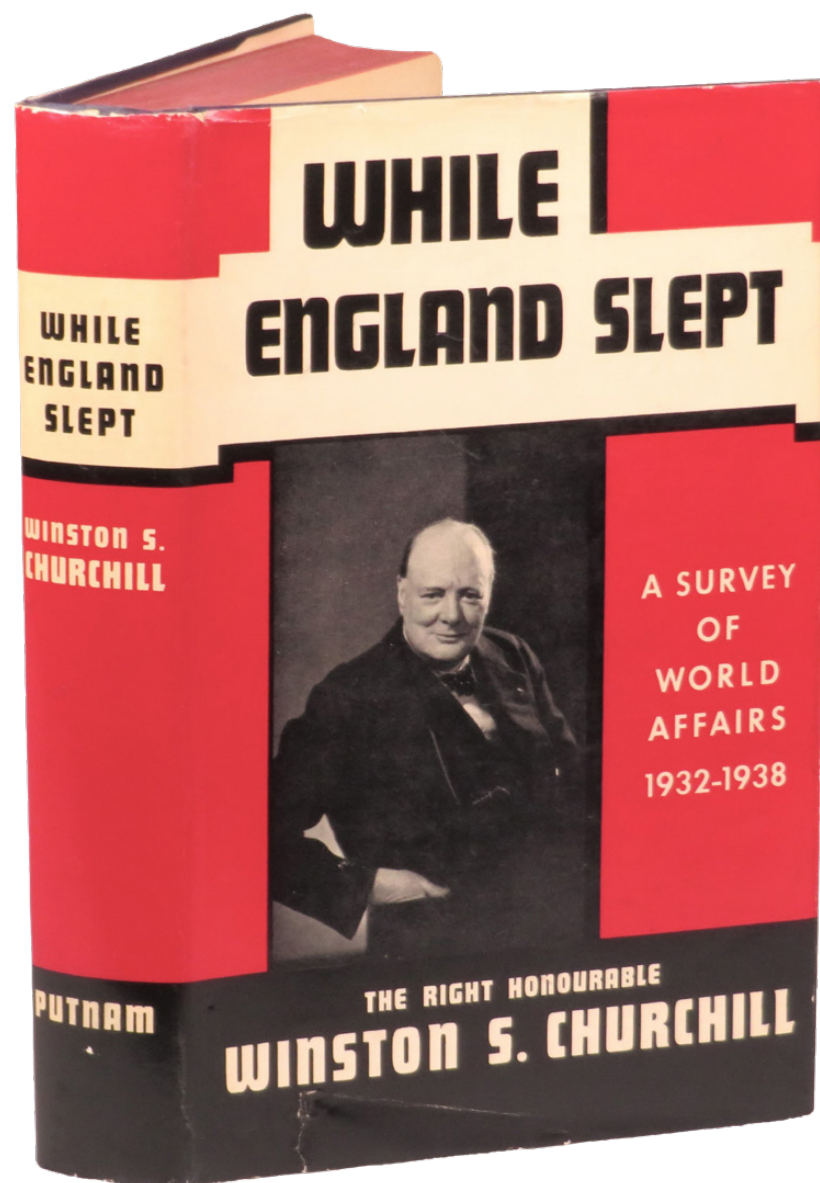


35

While England Slept G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1938

This is the precursor to Churchill's great war speeches, the U.S. first edition, first printing in the first printing dust jacket, published 11 months before the outbreak of the Second World War. *While England Slept* contains text from 41 Churchill speeches criticizing British foreign policy, spanning 25 October 1928 to 24 March 1938. Its British first edition counterpart was published three months earlier with the politically palatable and comparatively esoteric title *Arms and the Covenant* – referencing the failed Covenant of the post-WWI League of Nations. The U.S. title – *While England Slept* – is more candid.

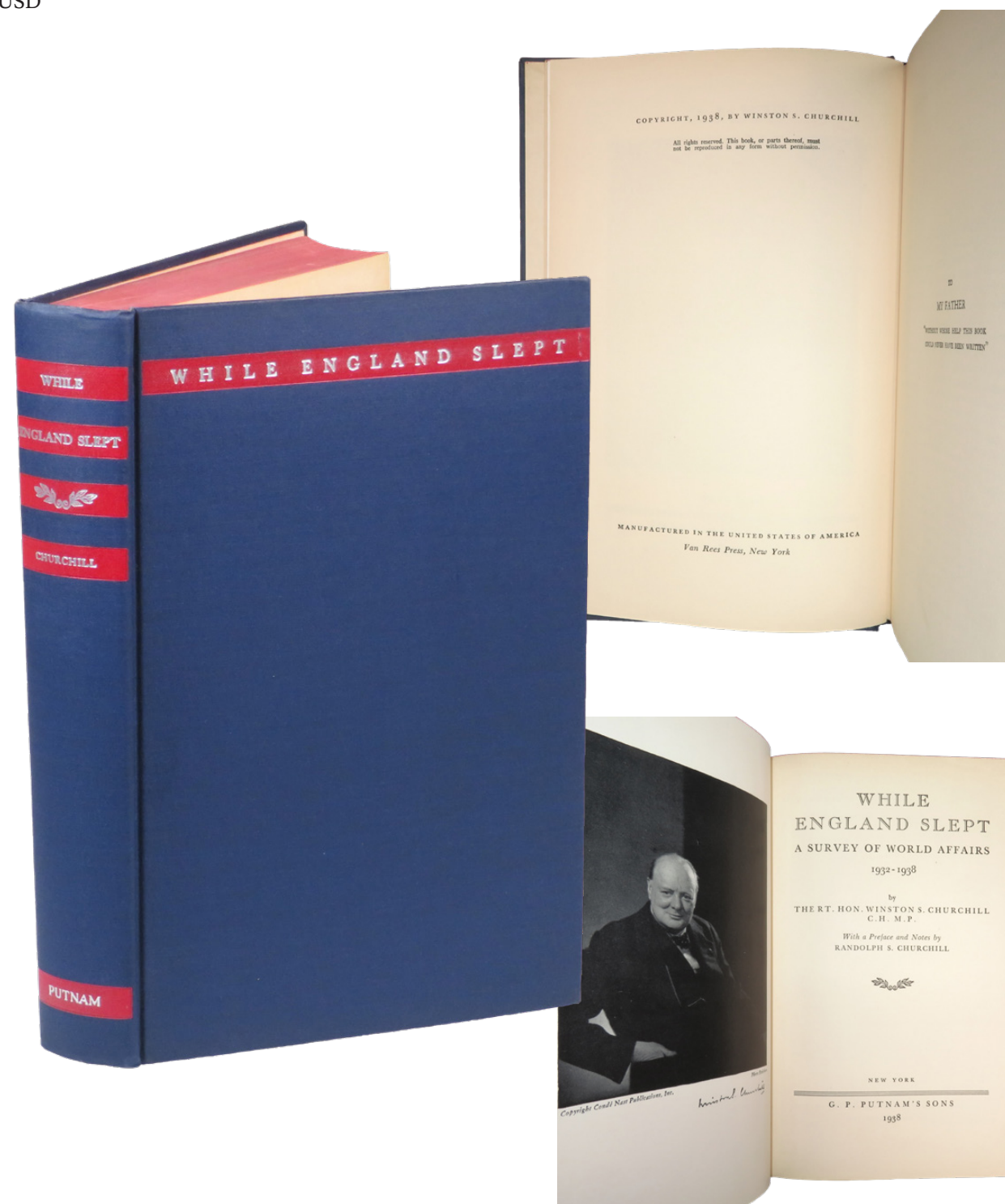
This is the best jacketed example we have offered, genuinely fine in a near fine dust jacket. The blue cloth binding remains beautifully square, clean, bright, and tight with sharp corners. We note only a little wrinkling at the spine ends and a trivial hint of shelf wear to the bottom edges. The contents are equally impressive, immaculately clean with no spotting and no appreciable age-toning. Even the untrimmed fore edges are perfectly clean and the red-stained top edge retains uniformly bright color. The sole previous ownership mark is a tiny Detroit bookseller sticker affixed to the lower rear pastedown.



The distinctive red, white, and black dust jacket is compellingly clean and complete. The jacket is unclipped, retaining the original "\$4.00" front flap price, and shows no loss. Moreover, the jacket boasts the brightest red hues we have seen, impressively unfaded, with absolutely no color shift between the front face and spine. The jacket is also remarkably clean; even the white rear face shows only mere hints of barely discernible soiling. Wear is minimal, the only blemishes of note being a truly tiny, superficial scuff to the lower spine just below the publisher's printed name, and a short, .75 inch (1.9 cm) closed tear and associated crease within the unprinted black margin of the lower front face. The dust jacket is fitted with a clear, removable, archival cover.

Bibliographic reference: Cohen A107.2.a, Woods/ICS A44(b.1). Langworth p.193. [CBC #003527]

\$2,800 USD



THE TRUTH ABOUT HITLER by WINSTON CHURCHILL

Step by Step

This important Churchill title - Churchill's last book published before the outbreak of the Second World War - includes 82 newspaper articles focused on foreign affairs written by Churchill between March 1936 and May 1939. Many of them contain his warnings and predictions about Nazi Germany.

Step By Step was published in June 1939. Only a few short months later, on the first day of September 1939, Germany invaded Poland. Churchill had spent the better part of a decade politically isolated, frequently at odds with both his party and prevailing public sentiment. Now he was invited to join the War Cabinet, reprising his First World War role as First Lord of the Admiralty. Less than a year after publication, in May 1940, Churchill became Prime Minister.

As a measure of Churchill's prescience and ultimate vindication, upon publication, Labour leader Clement Attlee, a political opponent who would replace Churchill as Prime Minister in 1945, wrote to Churchill: "It must be a melancholy satisfaction to you to see how right you were." Others were more blunt. Sir Desmond Morton, military officer, government official, and appeasement opponent, wrote to Churchill: "Many years on, historians will read this and your speeches in *Arms and the Covenant*. They will wonder but I doubt they will decide what devil of pride, unbelief, selfishness or sheer madness possessed the English people that they did not rise as one man" and "call on you to lead them."

The British first edition is bound in a medium green cloth with gilt stamped spine. The accompanying dust jacket is printed dark red and black on a very pale yellow-tan paper. These dust jackets understandably proved quite susceptible to both spine toning and general soiling. There were four printings of the British first edition, spanning June 1939 to January 1940. Although not so noted by bibliographers, we can confirm from experience that the dust jackets for all four printings are identical.

The U.S. first edition is bound in smooth navy cloth with red banners, silver print, and red-stained top edge in the same style as the preceding U.S. first edition of *Great Contemporaries* (1937) and *While England Slept* (1938) and the succeeding U.S. first edition of *Blood, Sweat, and Tears* (1941). The striking U.S. first edition dust jacket features a front face photo of Churchill and is printed in vivid green, black, and white.

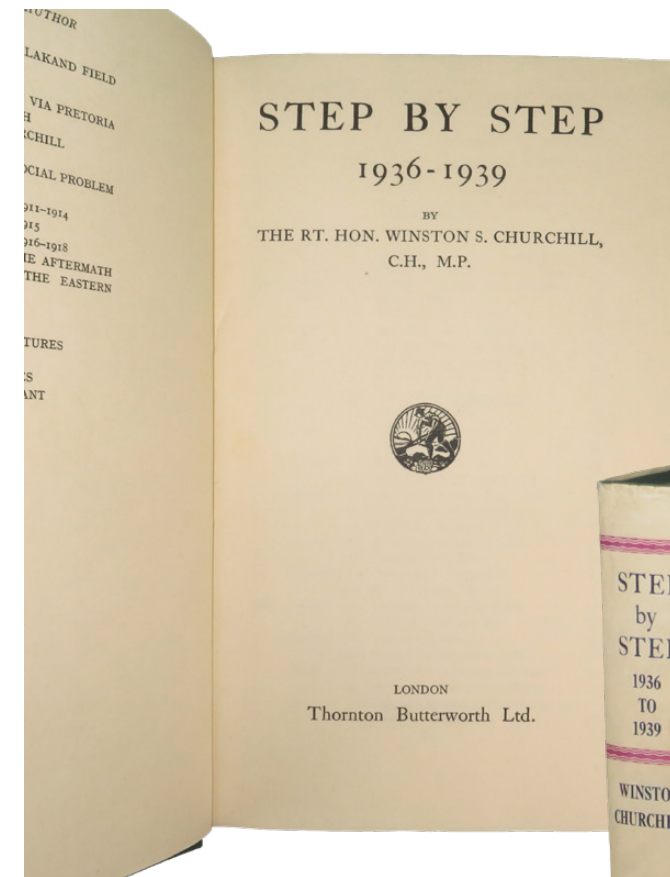
Whether as a bit of irony, or a poorly timed attempt at balanced perspective, the publisher used the rear flap of the U.S. edition dust jacket to advertise *In Search of Peace* by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain. The U.S. first edition was published by G. P. Putnam's Sons of New York on 25 August 1939, only a week before the German invasion of Poland and nine days before Great Britain declared war on Germany. Although Churchill bibliographer Ronald Cohen notes only a single printing of the U.S. edition, we can confirm that there was a second printing.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

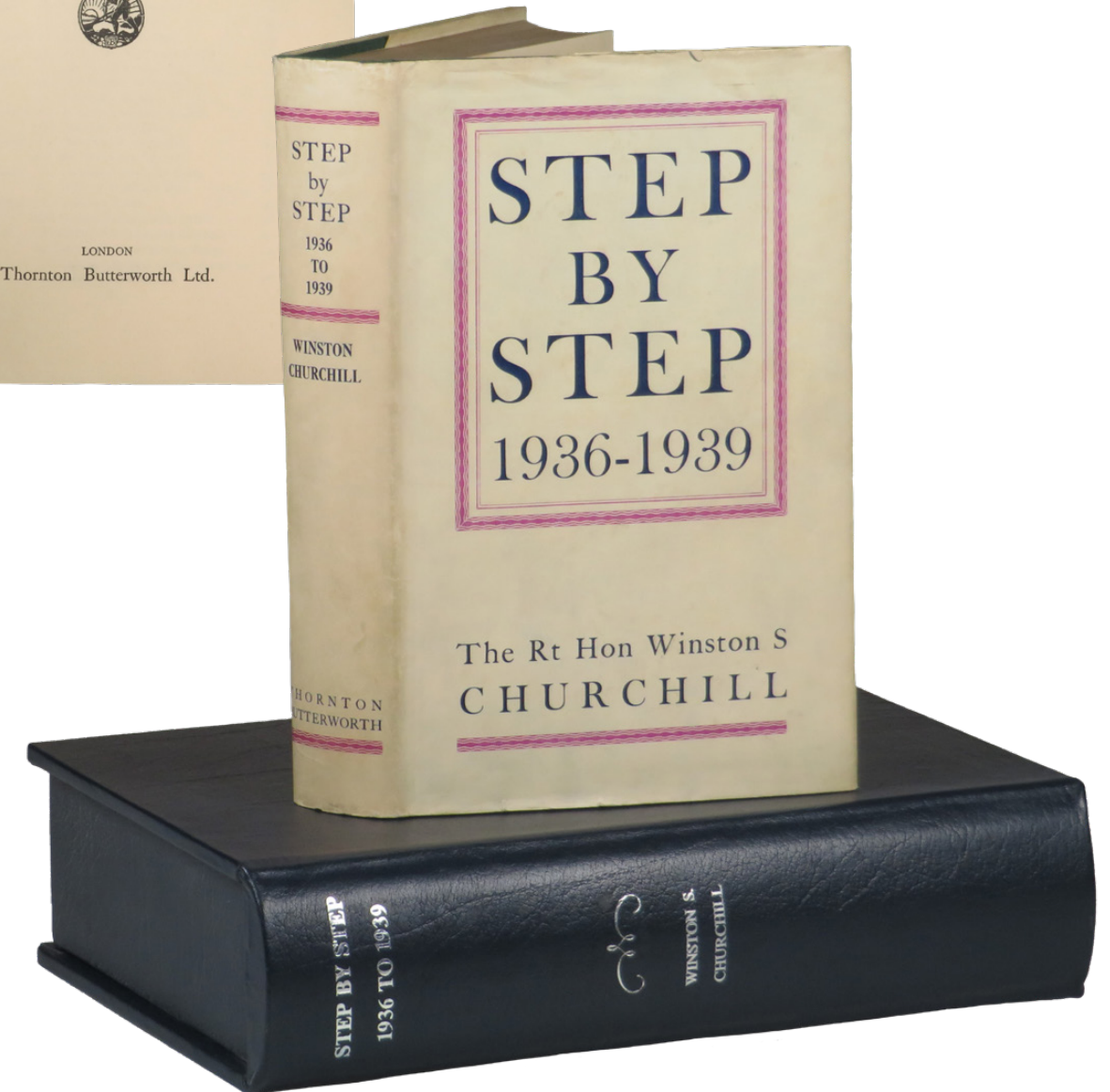
36

Step By Step

Thornton Butterworth Limited, London, 1939



This is a compellingly well-preserved jacketed British first edition, first printing of an important Churchill title - his last book published before the outbreak of the Second World War. This copy - the best we have offered - is unusually bright and clean, truly fine in a very good plus dust jacket.



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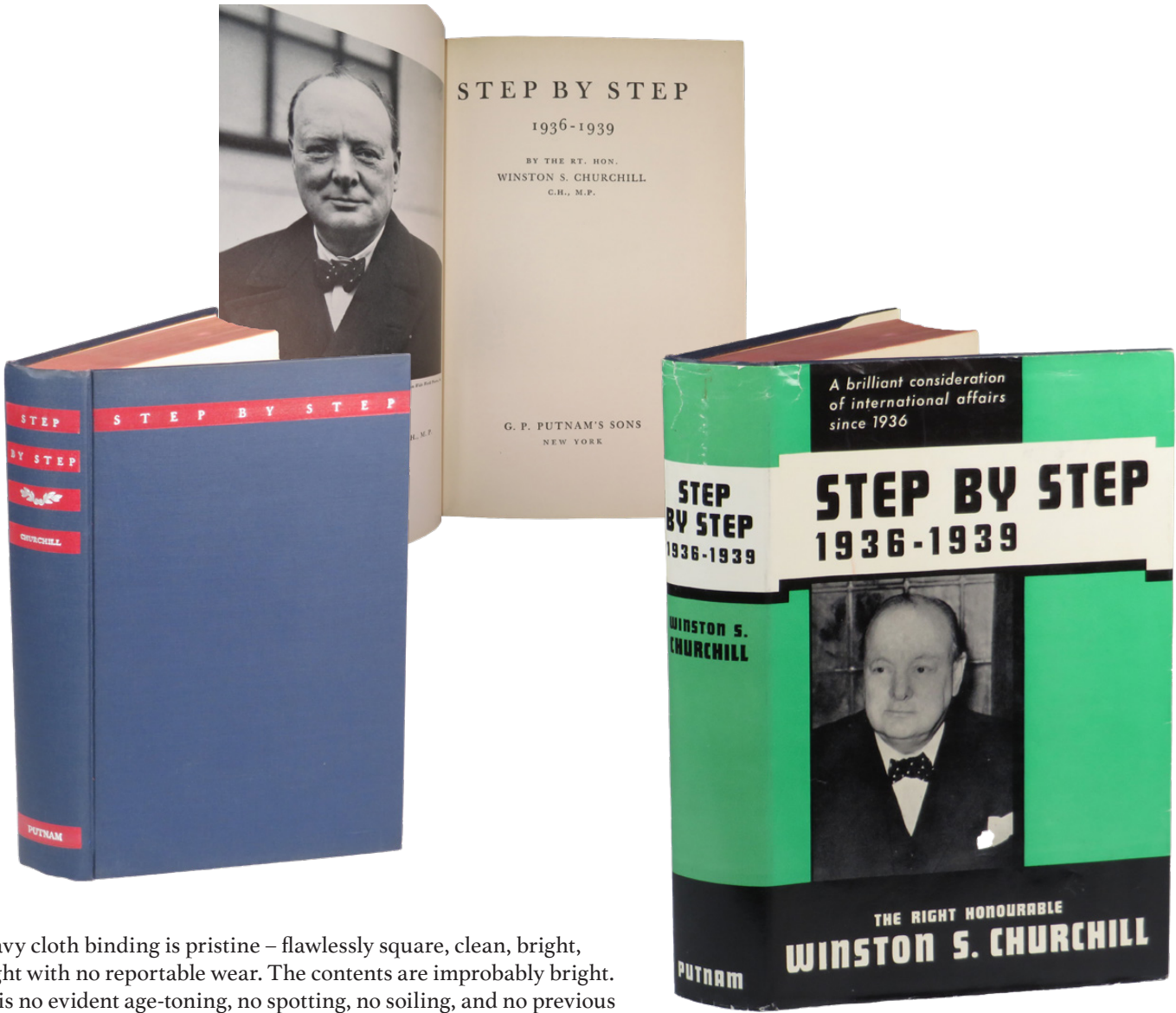
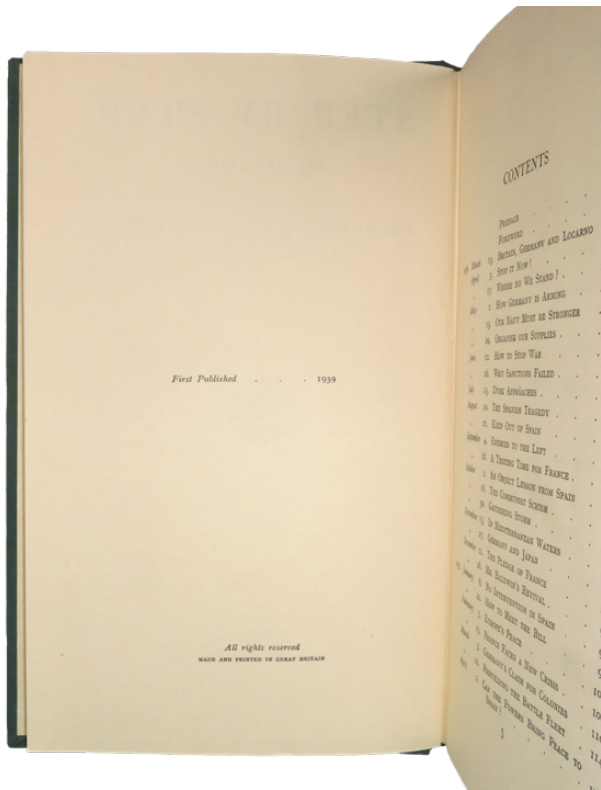
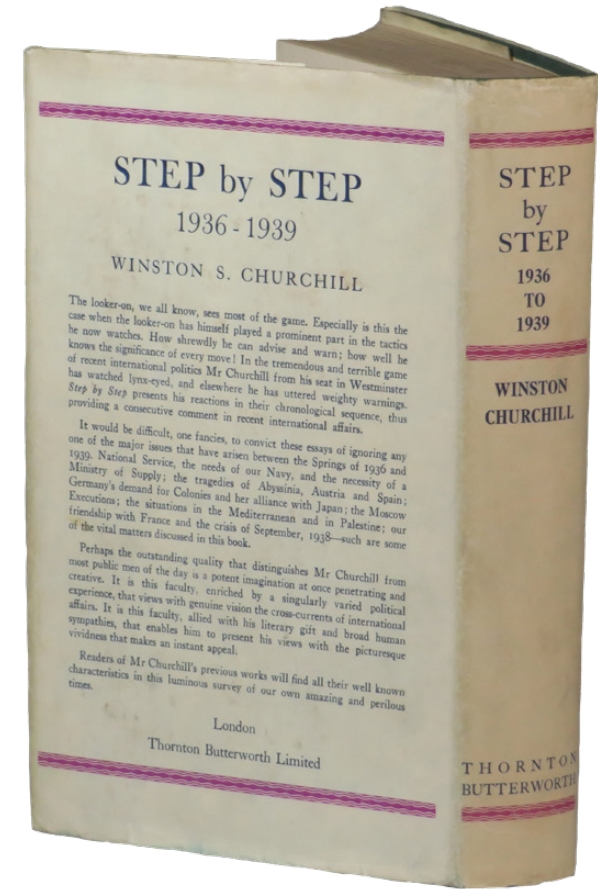
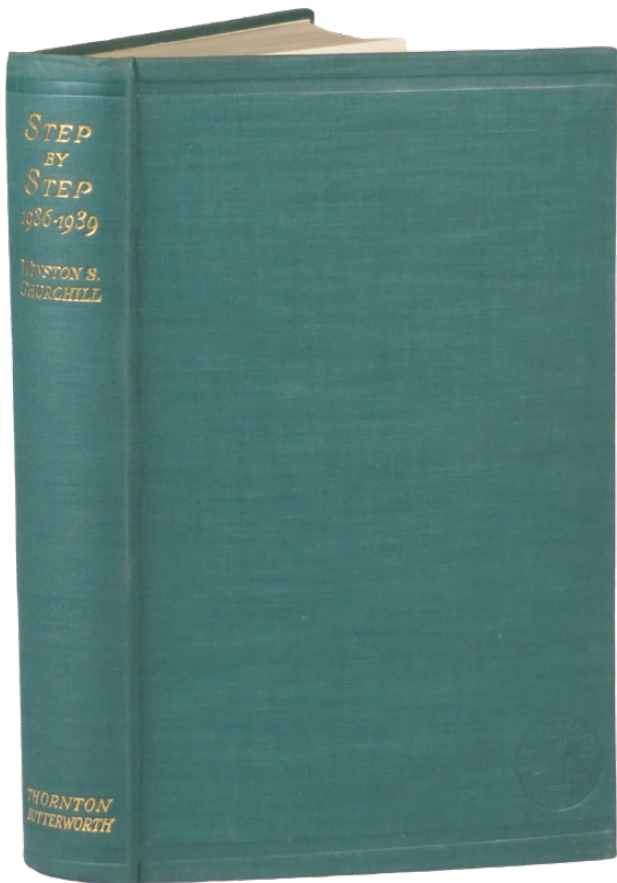
Step By Step G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1939

The green cloth binding is immaculate, perfectly tight, and entirely unfaded with vivid spine gilt, sharp corners, and no apparent shelf wear. The contents are crisp, bright, and tight. We find no previous ownership marks. Differential toning to the endpapers corresponding to the dust jacket flaps confirms what the binding already testifies – that this copy has spent life jacketed. Truly negligible spotting is confined to the endpapers. Even the fore and bottom edges are strikingly clean, the only sign of age is a trivial hint of shelf dust to the top edges. The dust jacket is nearly as impressive, unclipped, retaining the original front flap price, and entirely complete. We note modest shelf wear to extremities, very light overall soiling, and just a hint of toning to the nonetheless-still-bright jacket spine. The dust jacket is protected beneath a removable, clear, archival cover. The volume is housed in a full navy Morocco goatskin Solander with rounded spine.

Reference: Cohen AIII.1.a, Woods/ICS A45(a.1), Langworth p.197. [CBC 007235]

\$2,400

This is a an extraordinary jacketed first American edition, first printing of Churchill's last book published before the outbreak of the Second World War. This copy is the unequivocally the best we have encountered, truly fine in a near fine dust jacket and virtually unobtainable thus.



The navy cloth binding is pristine – flawlessly square, clean, bright, and tight with no reportable wear. The contents are improbably bright. There is no evident age-toning, no spotting, no soiling, and no previous ownership marks. The red-stained top edges retain unfaded, uniform hue, showing just an incidental scuff. The untrimmed fore edges are immaculate. This book could pass for as-new if not for the 1939 date on the copyright page. The green front face and spine color of this edition's dust jacket proved quite susceptible to sunning and the paper of the jacket itself prone to becoming brittle and thus chipping. Three features of this particular jacket stand out. First, it is remarkably clean, with only trivial soiling. Second it is entirely complete, with the original “\$4.00” front flap price intact and no loss. Third, it is entirely unfaded, the green color more vivid than on any other example we have seen and with no color shift between the front face and spine. This trio of virtues more than compensates for the short closed tears, wrinkling, and light scuffing at the spine head and the other, more trivial hints of wear confined to the extremities. The jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.

Reference: Cohen AIII.2, Woods/ICS A45(b.1). Langworth p.198. [CBC 007236]

\$1,200 USD

The War Speeches

During his long public life, Winston Churchill played many roles worthy of note - Member of Parliament for more than half a century, soldier and war correspondent, author of scores of books, ardent social reformer, combative cold warrior, painter, Nobel Prize winner. But Churchill's preeminence as a historical figure owes most to his indispensable leadership during the Second World War, when his soaring and defiant oratory sustained his countrymen and inspired the free world. Of Churchill, Edward R. Murrow said: "He mobilized the English language and sent it into battle." When Churchill was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1953, it not just for his writing, but for his "brilliant oratory in defending exalted human values."

Churchill's successor as Prime Minister and political opponent, Labor Party leader Clement Attlee, gave one of the most eloquent tributes to Churchill's wartime oratory. On 16 August 1945, less than a month after his party defeated Churchill's and Attlee took Churchill's job at 10 Downing Street, Attlee praised Churchill in the House of Commons. "In the darkest and most dangerous hour of our history, this nation found... the man who expressed supremely the courage and determination never to yield which animated all the men and women of this country. In undying phrases he crystallized the unspoken feeling of all. 'Words only,' it might be said, but words at great moments of history are deeds."

Between 1941 and 1946, Churchill's war speeches were published in seven individual volumes. The seven British first editions of Churchill's wartime speech volumes were all issued by the same publisher, Cassell and Company, Ltd., and of uniform height and binding (with minor variations). The accompanying dust jackets featured a consistent style for the first six volumes, which varied only in color scheme. The first editions are visually striking, but were printed on cheap wartime paper, bound in coarse cloth with thin boards beneath, and the dust jackets were likewise printed on thin paper. Hence the passage of time shows on most surviving copies.

The U.S. first editions were generally published in smaller numbers and are considerably scarcer today than their British counterparts. Moreover, the first volume, *Blood Sweat and Tears* is one of the few Churchill first editions for which the U.S. edition features a different title than the British (*Into Battle*).

Unlike their British counterparts, the U.S. editions varied significantly across the seven volumes. The first U.S. volume was published by G.P. Putnam's Sons and bound in the same size and blue cloth as their other 1930s editions of Churchill's works (*Great Contemporaries*, *While England Slept*, and *Step By Step*). Volumes 2-6 were published by Little, Brown and Company. Each of these five volumes was bound in red cloth with a black and red dust jacket, but the volumes vary considerably in height with volumes 4-6 smaller, wartime material rationing cited as the reason on the Volume 5 dust jacket flap. The final volume was published by Simon and Schuster in an entirely different size, binding, and dust jacket style.

After the first six volumes of Churchill's war speeches had been published, their British publisher, Cassell and Company Ltd., issued the first collected edition of Churchill's war speeches as a paperback. The single volume was bound in pale blue paper wraps with turn-in flaps like a dust jacket, and with contents printed on cheap, postwar "Economy Standards" pulp paper. This is a scarce and fragile edition in anything approaching collector-worthy condition.

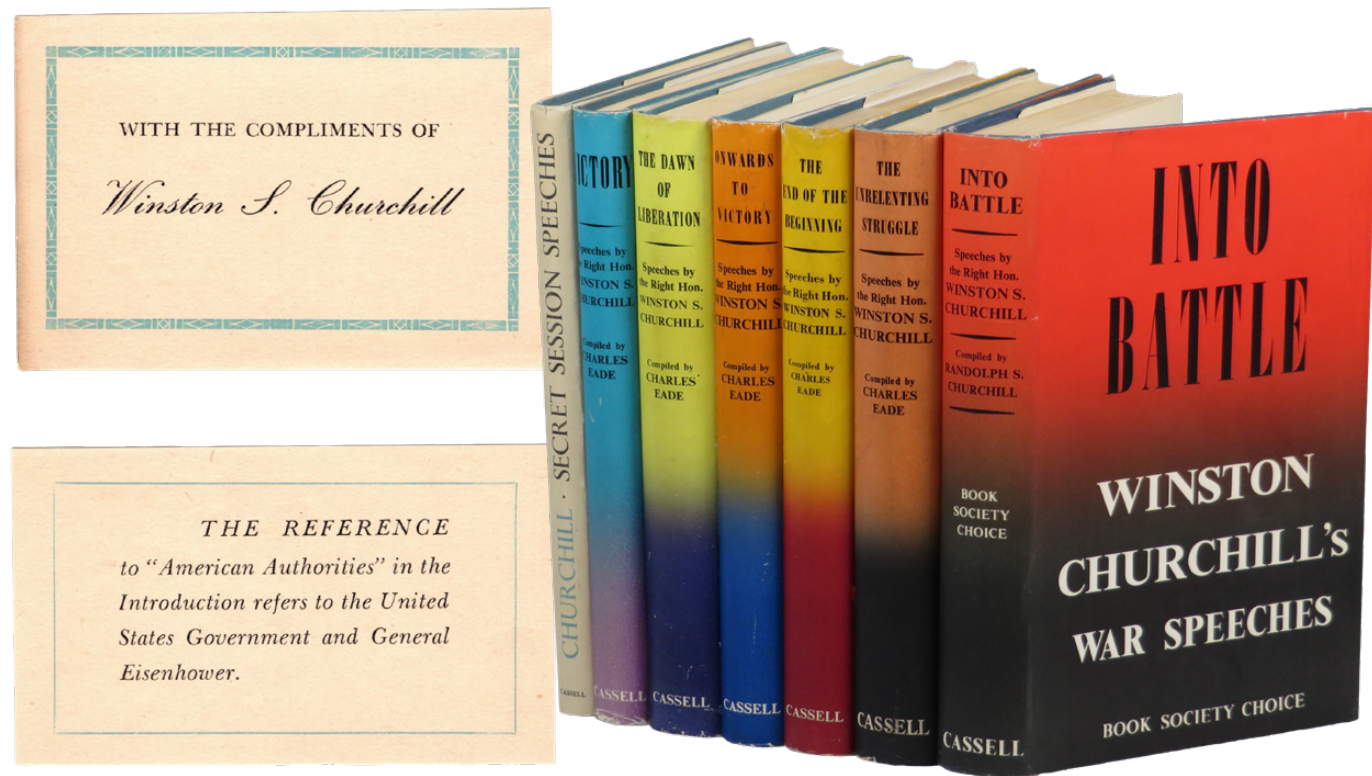
In 1952, during Churchill's second premiership, Cassell reissued the War Speeches as a new, three-volume edition. Charles Eade, who had compiled six of Churchill's war speeches volumes, returned to the role for this new edition. Eade modified many speech titles, adding several speeches, and eliminating several for which "time has reduced their significance." The speeches "are linked, where necessary, with brief notes to form a complete, chronological story." Most welcome is the addition of an index, not present in the original wartime volumes. The three tall volumes are bound in smooth, dark blue cloth with stout boards and gilt spine print and wrapped in uniform dust jackets.

In 1953, a U.S. edition of the three-volume set was published by Houghton Mifflin, with the same content as the 1952 British edition, but bound quite differently and more elaborately. This incredibly small U.S. edition was limited to a mere 500 sets.

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The War Speeches

A full set of seven British first editions - *Into Battle*, *The Unrelenting Struggle*, *The End of the Beginning*, *Onwards to Victory*, *The Dawn of Liberation*, *Victory*, and *Secret Session Speeches*, the final volume an author's presentation copy inscribed and dated by Churchill in 1947, and including a typed presentation letter signed by Churchill on his Hyde Park Gate stationery, the original envelope, and the author's printed "WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF Winston S. Churchill" presentation card *Cassell and Company, Ltd., London 1941-1946*



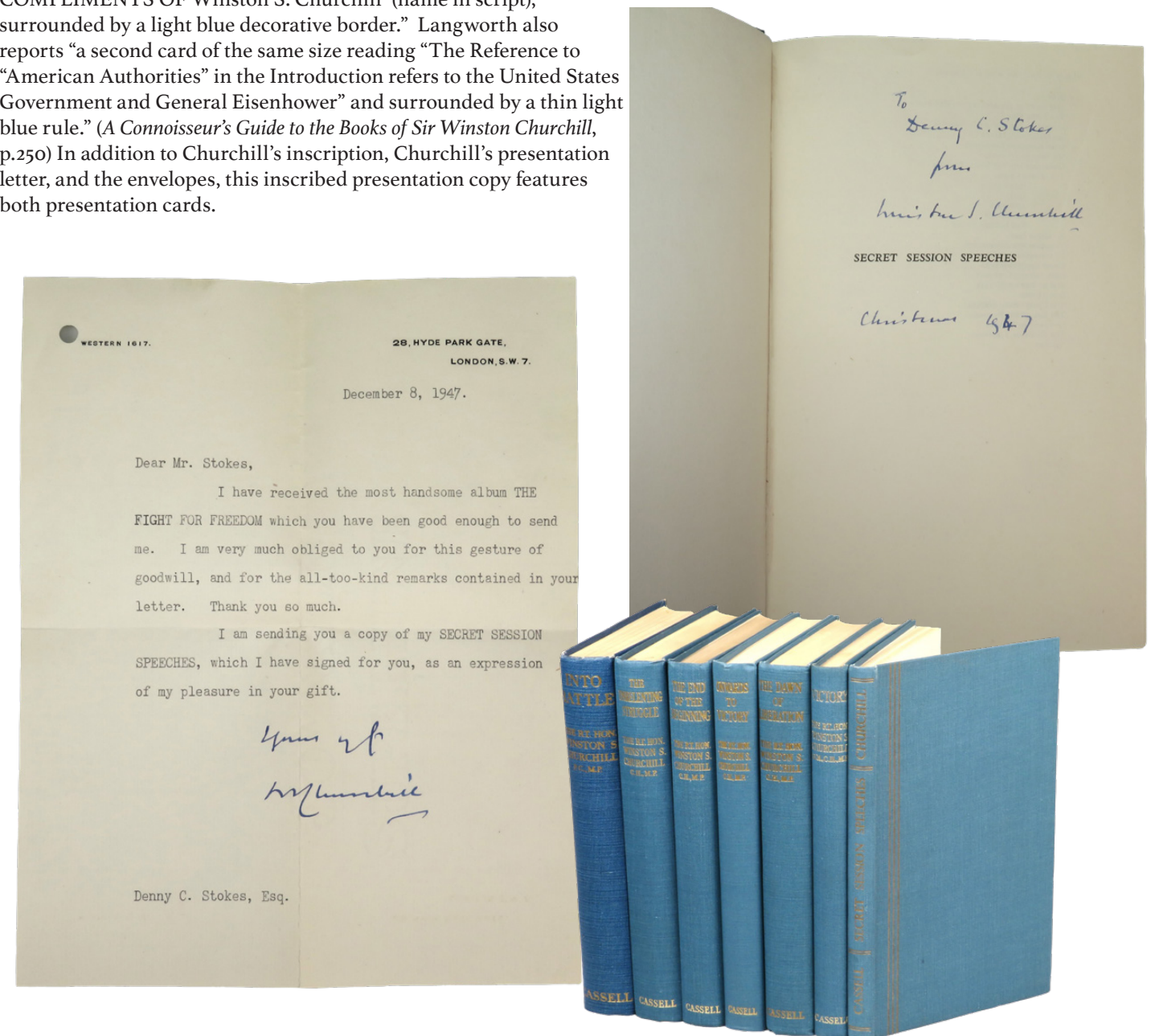
This full, seven-volume set of British first edition, first printings of Winston Churchill's Second World War speeches offers a vanishingly rare trifecta of virtues. First, the set as a whole is unequivocally the finest we have ever encountered. Second, the presentation volume therein – the seventh and final volume – is equally fine, magnificently well-preserved. Third, the presentation volume is not only signed by Churchill, but inscribed, dated, and accompanied by a signed presentation letter from Churchill, providing definitive and compelling provenance.

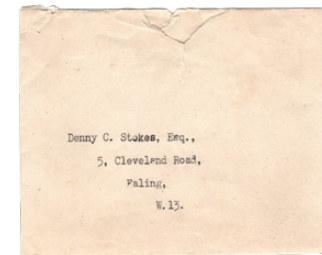
Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

The presentation inscription, letter, envelopes, and cards

Secret Session Speeches is inscribed by Churchill in five lines on the half title: "To | Denny C. Stokes | from | Winston S. Churchill | Christmas 1947". An accompanying typed letter signed by Churchill on his Hyde Park Gate stationery is dated "December 8, 1947" and reads: "Dear Mr. Stokes, | I have received the most handsome album THE | FIGHT FOR FREEDOM which you have been good enough to send | me. I am very much obliged to you for this gesture of | goodwill, and for the all-too-kind remarks contained in your | letter. Thank you so much. | I am sending you a copy of my SECRET SESSION | SPEECHES, which I have signed for you, as an expression | of my pleasure in your gift." The letter is signed by Churchill and accompanied by two original envelopes – one, in which the letter resides, featuring Stokes's typed Ealing address but unfranked, consonant with its inclusion with the inscribed book. A second, slightly larger envelope (in which the first envelope now resides) features the printed House of Commons seal on the flap, is franked, and is hand-addressed to a different "Stokes" at the same address.

A further virtue of this inscribed presentation copy is inclusion of two quite rare original cards. Richard Langworth reports presentation copies of *Secret Session Speeches* "accompanied by a 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 in white card printed in black, 'WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF Winston S. Churchill' (name in script), surrounded by a light blue decorative border." Langworth also reports "a second card of the same size reading "The Reference to "American Authorities" in the Introduction refers to the United States Government and General Eisenhower" and surrounded by a thin light blue rule." (A *Connoisseur's Guide to the Books of Sir Winston Churchill*, p.250) In addition to Churchill's inscription, Churchill's presentation letter, and the envelopes, this inscribed presentation copy features both presentation cards.





The recipient, Denny Stokes

The recipient of this inscribed book was Dennis “Denny” Crane Stokes (1900-1975). We know that Mr. Stokes resided for some time in Ealing, West London. While we do not know anything about the “most handsome album THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM” to which Churchill refers in his letter to Denny, we do know that Denny Stokes made bit of a name for himself building dioramas, predominantly historical and military in nature. Denny shared with Churchill a keen interest in history, in the minutiae of battle tactics, and in the use of miniatures to portray both.

Stokes and his dioramas were featured in a 1957 Pathé documentary film. (Pathé News was a UK producer of newsreels and documentaries from 1910 to 1970.) In the surviving video footage we can see several of Stokes’s dioramas and some of his compositional techniques. We also find correspondence with the Imperial War Museum about Stokes’s dioramas, including one of the landing of SS *River Clyde* at V Beach, Gallipoli, part of the First World War Dardanelles debacle for which Churchill was scapegoated and forced from the Cabinet. A more celebrated and salutary landing was also among Stokes’s later diorama subjects – one of the D-Day Normandy landings during Churchill’s Second World War premiership.

It appears that Stokes may have served at the end of the First World War with the Royal Scots Fusiliers and was wounded around the time the Allies breached the Hindenburg Line in September 1918 – another subject of Stokes’s known dioramas. Of note, Churchill served with the Royal Scots Fusiliers during the First World War. Certainly, it may be imagined that Stokes’s dioramas would have appealed to Churchill who, as a youth, arranged his own considerable collection of toy soldiers into elaborate battle scenes.

The accumulation of these notional connections may explain why Stokes received such a compellingly personalized letter and inscribed book from Churchill. Other books inscribed by Churchill at the time to those he did not know well typically featured a less personal inscription and were accompanied by a presentation letter signed by a secretary, rather than by Churchill himself.



Edition and condition

Between 1941 and 1946, Churchill’s war speeches were published in seven individual volumes. The British first editions are visually striking, but were printed on cheap wartime paper, bound in coarse cloth, and wrapped in bright, thin, fragile dust jackets. They proved highly susceptible to spotting, soiling, and fading, so the passage of time has been hard on most surviving first editions. A full, jacketed, bright, clean, and complete set of first printings is almost a chimera. Almost. This particular set is simply magnificent.

The inscribed copy is a jacketed copy of the British first edition, only printing, of the seventh and final volume of Churchill’s war speeches, *Secret Session Speeches*. As the title implies, this slim volume contains five speeches Churchill made to the House of Commons sitting in Secret Session - those of 20 June and 17 September 1940, 25 June 1941, and 23 April and 10 December 1942. Condition is fine in a near fine dust jacket. The blue cloth binding is square, clean, tight, and unfaded, with sharp corners and bright gilt. The contents likewise are unusually bright with no spotting or previous ownership marks other than the author’s presentation inscription. The white dust jacket, so prone to soiling and spotting, is beautifully clean, bright, unclipped and complete, with only trivial wear and soiling to joints and extremities.

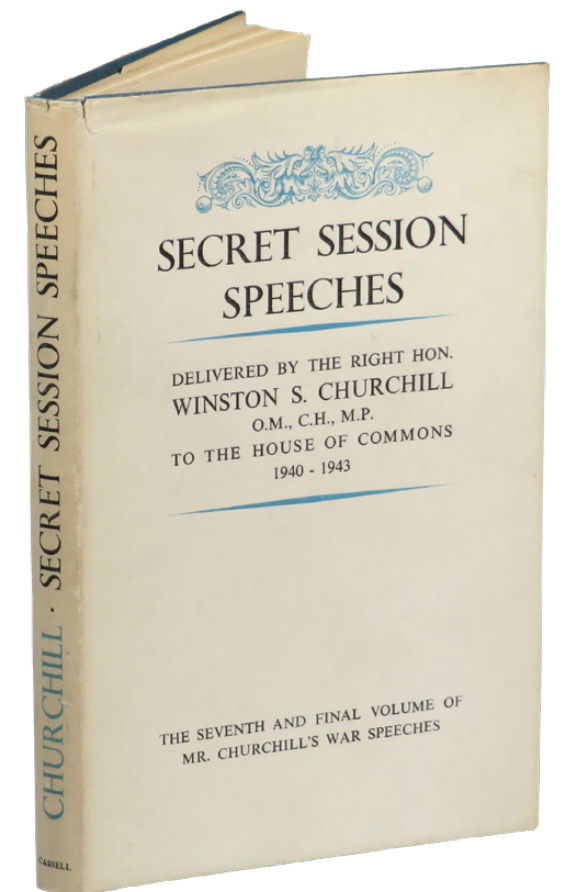
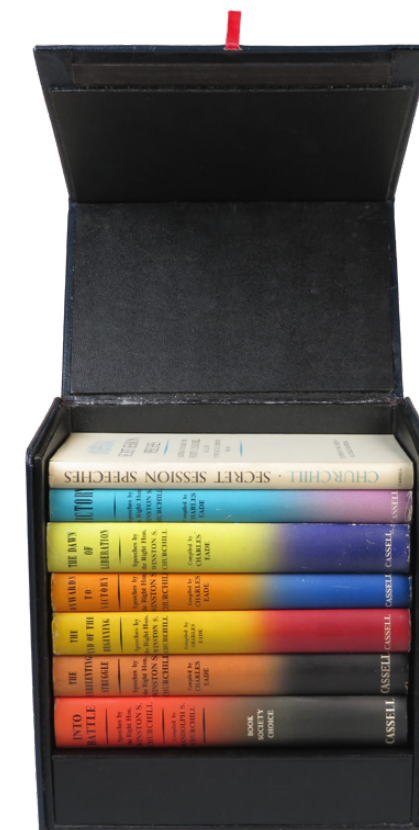
The first six volumes in the set accompanying the inscribed presentation volume are equally impressive examples, even if they lack their author’s signature. All six volumes feature truly fine volumes in near fine plus or better dust jackets. The blue cloth bindings are superlative – immaculately clean, bright, tight, and square with sharp corners, vivid spine gilt, and no appreciable wear. The first printing contents are likewise improbably clean. We find no previous ownership marks. Remarkably, we find no appreciable spotting, endemic to the “war economy standard” paper. Even the page edges are strikingly clean. Of note, *Into Battle* is not only first edition, but first state, denoted by the absence of pagination at pages 78 and 294, and is bound in the smoother, darker blue cloth we correlate exclusively to the first state. *The Unrelenting Struggle* is likewise first state, denoted by irregular pagination at page 281.

All seven first printing dust jackets are unclipped, retaining their original front flap prices and complete, with no appreciable loss. All seven jackets retain bright color, the vivid hues undimmed even on the jacket spines, rendering shelf presentation vividly compelling. None of the dust jackets show any color shift between the faces and spines. Wear and blemishes are truly trivial, substantially confined to joints and extremities. Even soiling is quite light, noted only on a few of the white rear panels.

The jackets are fitted with clear, removable, archival covers. All four volumes are housed together in a full, navy, Morocco goatskin case with dropback top and front, magnetic closure, ribbon pull tab, and silver title and author print.

Reference: Cohen A142.1.a, A172.1.a, A183.1.a, A194.1.a, A214.1.a, A223.1.b, A227.2.a; Woods/ICS A66(a.1), A89(a.1), A94(a.1), A101(a.1), A107(a.1), A112(ab), A114(b); Langworth pages 204, 213, 218, 223, 228, 234, 250. [CBC #007237]

\$25,000



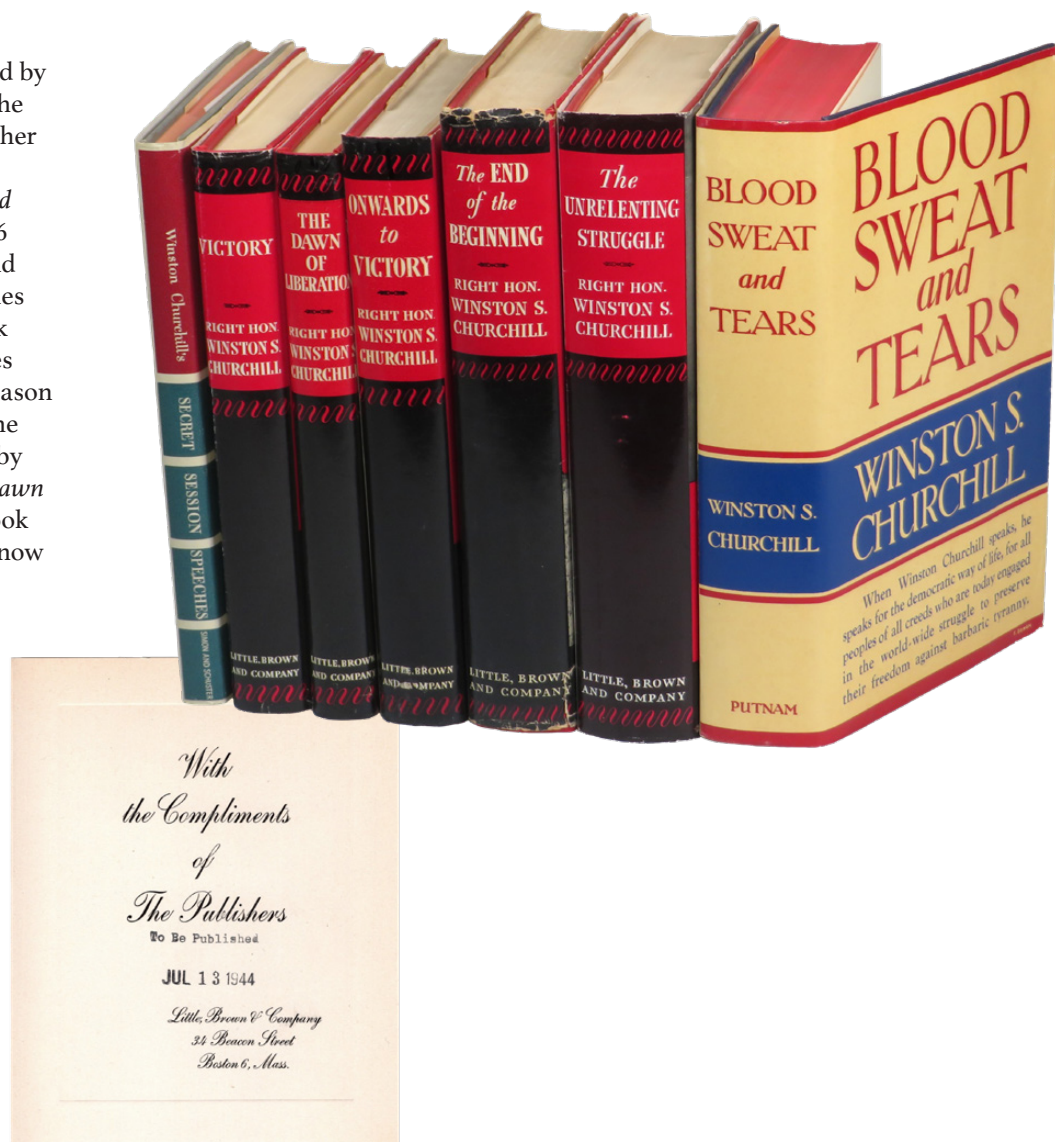
The War Speeches

A full set of seven U.S. first editions, including *Blood Sweat and Tears*, *The Unrelenting Struggle*, *The End of the Beginning*, *Onwards to Victory*, *The Dawn of Liberation*, *Victory*, and *Secret Session Speeches* G.P. Putnam's Sons; Little, Brown & Company; Simon & Schuster, New York and Boston, 1941-1946

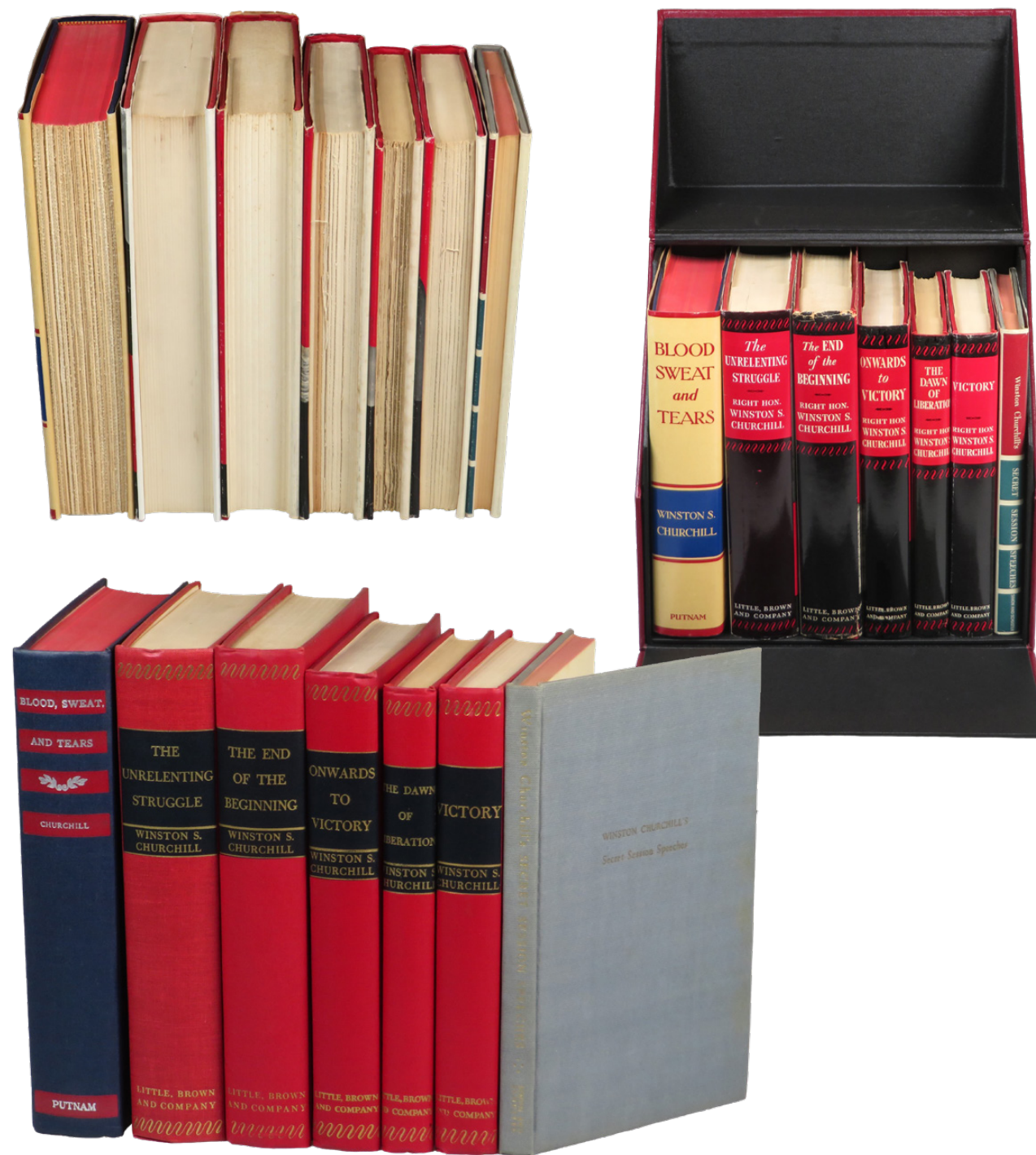
This full set of jacketed U.S. first editions of Winston Churchill's War speeches is by far the best we have ever encountered, virtually unobtainable in such condition.

Between 1941 and 1946, Churchill's war speeches were published in seven individual volumes. The U.S. first editions are far scarcer than their British counterparts. Moreover, the first volume, *Blood Sweat and Tears* (published in England as *Into Battle*), is one of the few Churchill first editions for which the U.S. edition features a different title than the British. The U.S. editions varied significantly across the seven volumes, unlike the British first editions, which were all issued by the same publisher, universal in height and binding, and varied only in the dust jackets.

The first U.S. volume was published by G.P. Putnam's Sons and bound in the same size and blue cloth as their other 1930s editions of Churchill's works (*Great Contemporaries*, *While England Slept*, and *Step By Step*). Volumes 2-6 were published by Little, Brown and Company. Each of these five volumes was bound in red cloth with a black and red dust jacket, but the volumes vary considerably in height. The reason appears on the dust jacket flap of the smallest of the volumes published by Little, Brown and Company, *The Dawn of Liberation*: "The format of this book is designed to save paper, which is now rationed, as well as other materials. In 1941 this volume would have been larger, or thicker, or heavier, and perhaps all three of these, and might have been set in a large type face with wider margins to the page..." The final volume, *Secret Session Speeches*, was published by Simon and Schuster in an entirely different size, binding, and dust jacket style and is the true first edition, as U.S. publication preceded that of its British counterpart.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



This full, improbably bright and clean, seven-volume set features near fine plus or better books in near fine or better jackets. It is just short of impossible to assemble sets in such condition – only *just* short because of this set.

All seven bindings are bright, clean, and square with sharp corners and virtually no wear. All contents are crisp, clean, bright, and tight. The only two volumes with topstain – *Blood, Sweat and Tears* and *Secret Session Speeches* – both retain uniformly bright, unfaded red topstain. The only spotting in the entire set appears confined to the top edges and upper fore edges of *The End of the Beginning*. Of special note, *Onwards to Victory* is a pre-publication publisher's presentation copy, evidenced by a printed and date-stamped "With the Compliments of The Publishers" card from "Little, Brown & Company" with an ink-stamped "To be Published" date of "JUL 13 1944" laid in. The only other previous ownership marks in the set are a small, Sacramento bookseller sticker affixed to the lower rear pastedown of *The Unrelenting Struggle* and a cryptic "9A 3.50" ink-stamped to the final free endpaper verso of *The End of the Beginning*.

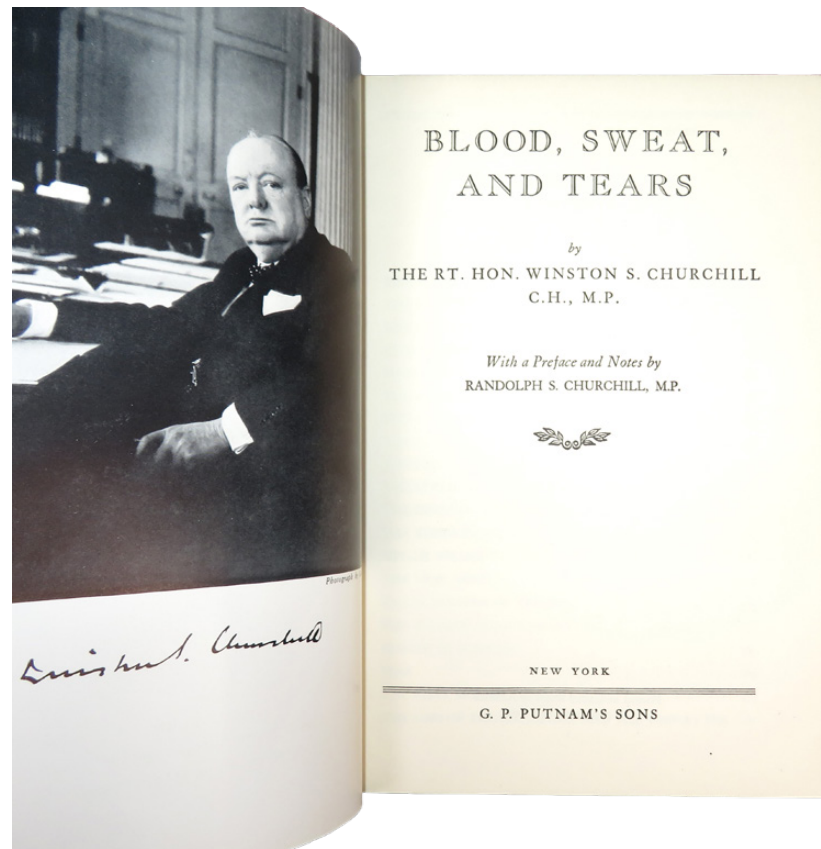


All of the dust jackets are marvelously bright in appearance and highly complete. All their original front flap prices are intact. The majority of the dust jackets are so improbably clean and unworn that it is not hyperbole to grade them as truly fine. The first and final jackets – *Blood, Sweat and Tears* and *Secret Session Speeches* – approach “as new” condition. The Little, Brown and Company dust jackets for volumes 2-6 proved incredibly susceptible to scuffing and wear, as well as fading of the red spine panels. Here, all five of these dust jackets retain vivid, undimmed spine color. Among these five jackets, only the spine ends of *The End of the Beginning* and the top and bottom edges of the front face of *The Dawn of Liberation* show any appreciable wear.

All seven dust jackets are protected beneath clear, removable, archival covers. The set is housed in a double-hinged full burgundy Morocco goatskin case featuring a gilt-framed and printed Black Morocco label.

Reference: Cohen A142.3.a, A172.2.a, A183.2.a, A194.2, A214.2.a, A223.2, A227.; Woods/ICS A66(b.1), A89(b.1), A94(b.1), A101(b.1), A107(b), A112(b), A114(a); Langworth pages 207, 214, 220, 224, 229, 235, 248 [CBC #007238]

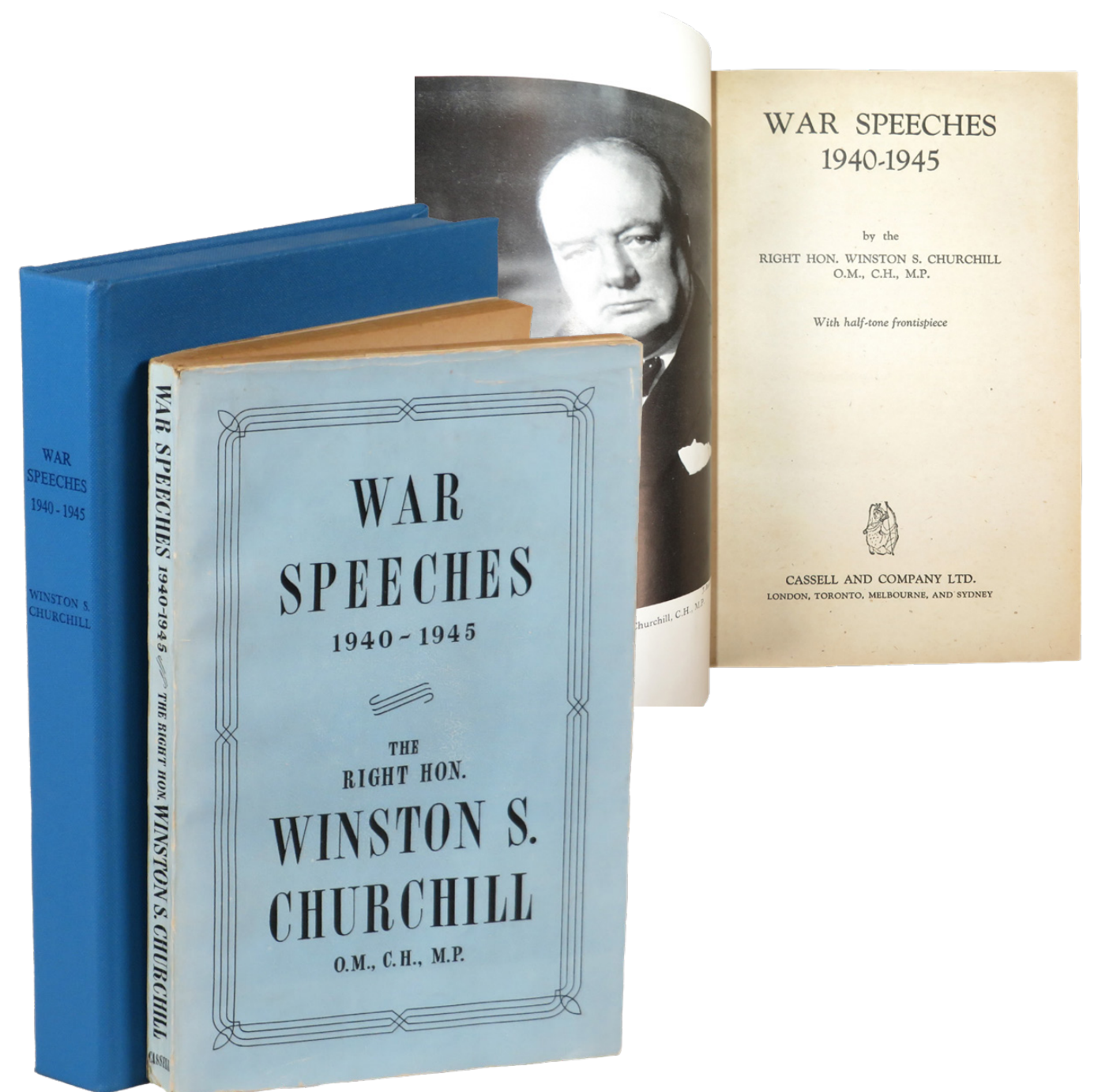
\$5,500 USD



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The War Speeches 1940-1945 Cassell and Company, Ltd., London, 1946

This is the first collected edition of Churchill's war speeches, published only as a paperback in 1946. Between 1941 and 1946, Churchill's war speeches were published in seven individual volumes. In 1952, they were collected and republished in three volumes. Both of these editions are well-known. Far less known is this first collected edition published in July 1946, just one year after Churchill's Conservative Party lost the General Election and Churchill lost his wartime premiership to Clement Attlee. The book measures 8.5 x 5.5 inches (21.6 x 14 cm), bound in pale blue paper wraps with turn-in flaps like a dust jacket, and with contents printed on cheap pulp paper. With only one softcover printing, this has proven a scarce and fragile edition.



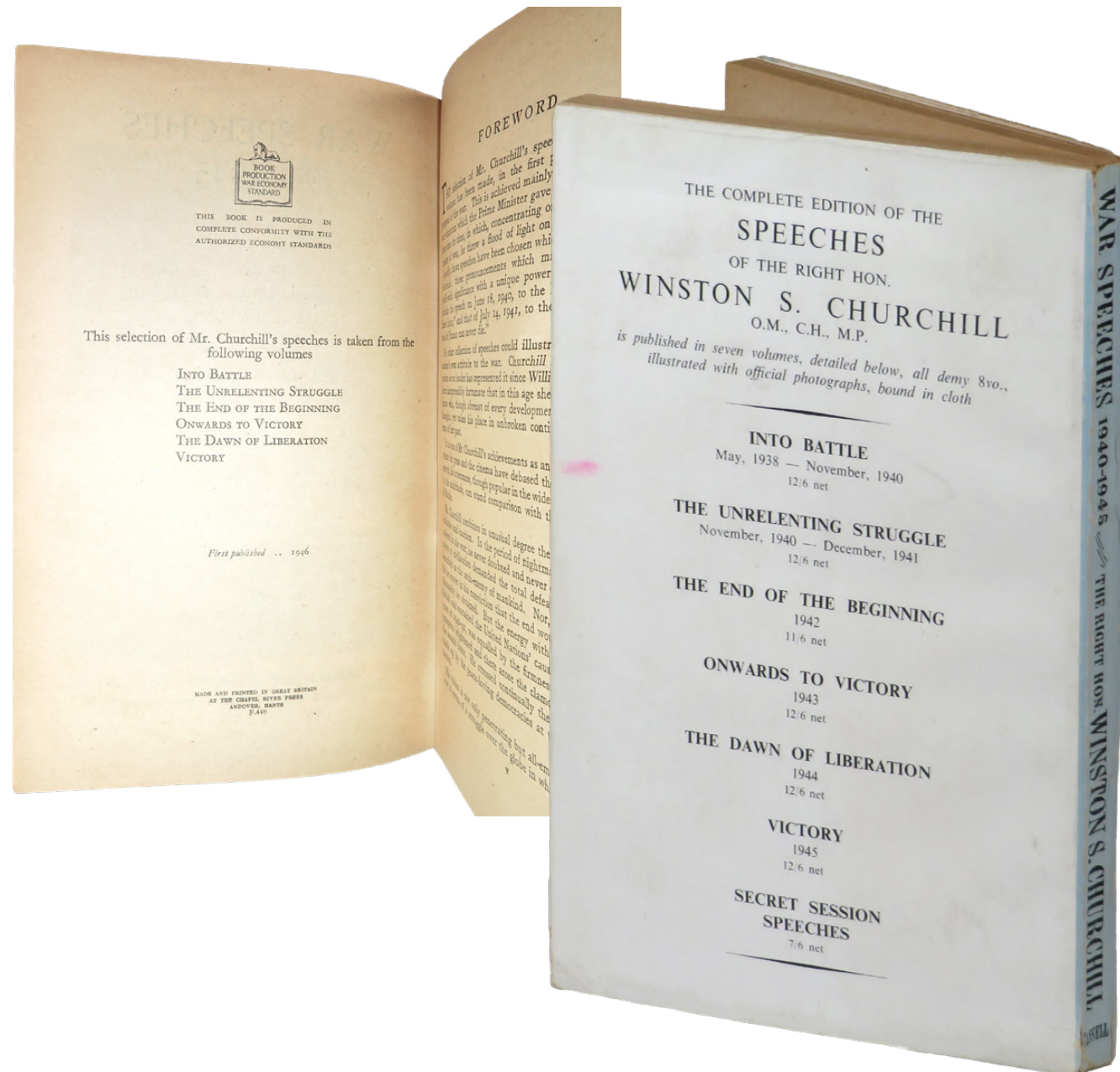
41

The War Speeches of the Rt. Hon. Winston S. Churchill

A presentation set inscribed by the compiler, Charles Eade to Conservative Member of Parliament and newspaper magnate Esmond Cecil Harmsworth, second Viscount Rothermere
Cassell and Company, Ltd., London, 1952

This is the first edition, first printing of the three-volume “definitive” edition of Churchill’s war speeches, a presentation set inscribed by the compiler, Charles Eade, to newspaper magnate Viscount Rothermere. The six-line inked inscription on the Volume One front free endpaper recto reads: “To | Viscount Rothermere | From | the Compiler | Charles Eade | September 3, 1952.” This set is triply compelling – for condition, as a Compiler’s presentation copy, and for its recipient, an important Churchill association.

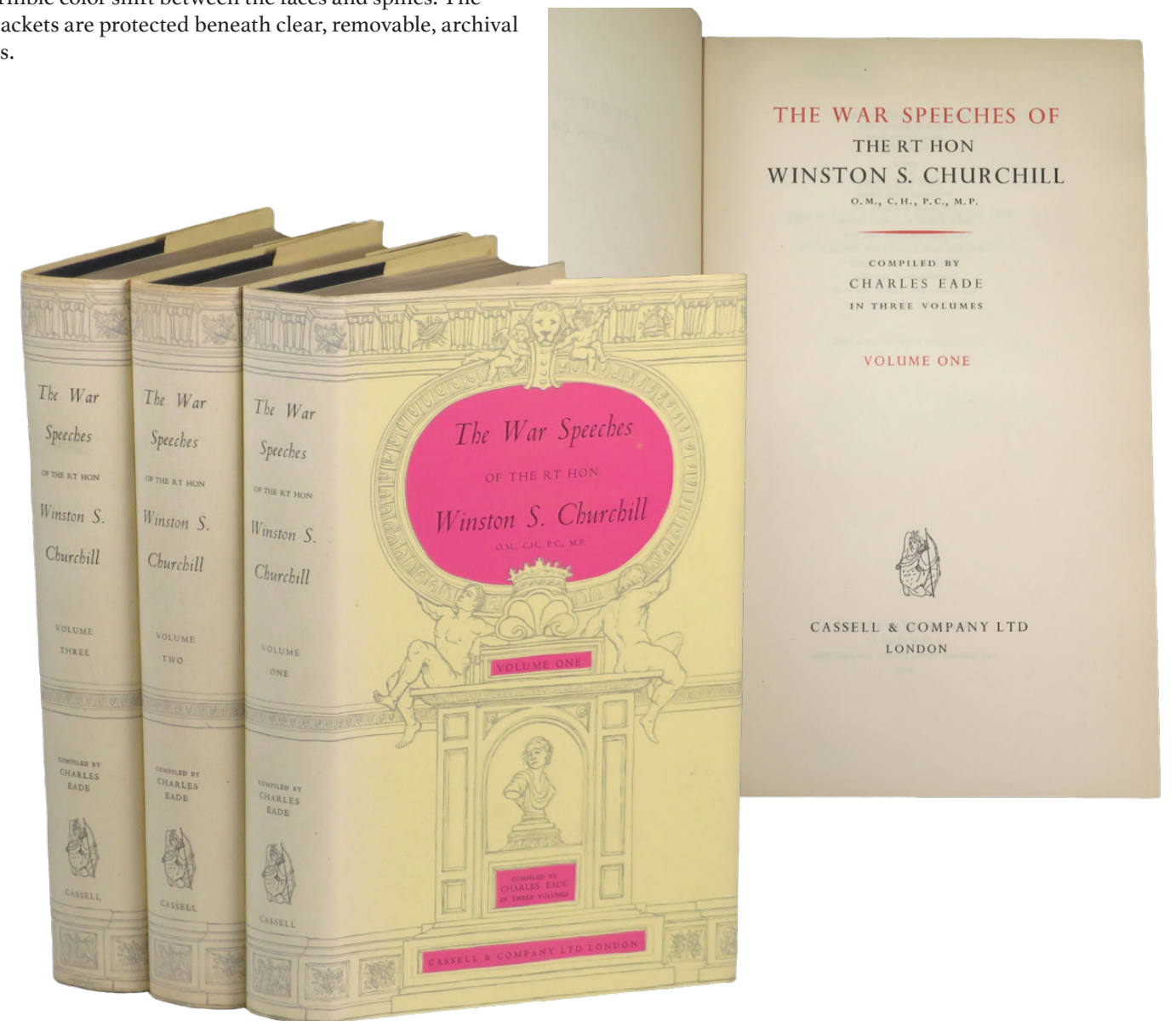
Condition is near fine in near fine dust jackets. The blue cloth bindings are square, clean, and tight with only trivial shelf wear confined to extremities. The contents are likewise notably clean, with no spotting and no previous ownership marks apart from the presentation inscription. The dust jackets are unclipped and complete, with no losses – only light soiling and barely discernible color shift between the faces and spines. The dust jackets are protected beneath clear, removable, archival covers.



Given the paperback binding and pulp paper contents, truly fine copies are a chimera. This copy is the best we have encountered, in perhaps better than very good plus condition overall. The wraps binding is square, complete, bright, and firmly attached. The pale blue hue is uniform on both the front cover and spine, showing no toning. Moreover, the spine shows no vertical creases; this copy appears unread. The white rear face is notably clean, with only incidental soiling. The front flap is unclipped, retaining the publisher’s original “5s. net” price. We note only light wear, confined to the extremities, joints, and spine ends, including a short closed tear at the lower rear joint. The contents are as clean as could be hoped; the pulp paper contents are inevitably toned, but we find no previous ownership marks and no spotting. The binding is protected with a clear, removable, mylar cover and the book is housed in a blue buckram Solander case, the title and author printed in dark blue on both the spine and front cover, the interior lined with blue paper.

Reference: Cohen A224, Woods/ICS A113, Langworth p.241. [CBC #007239]

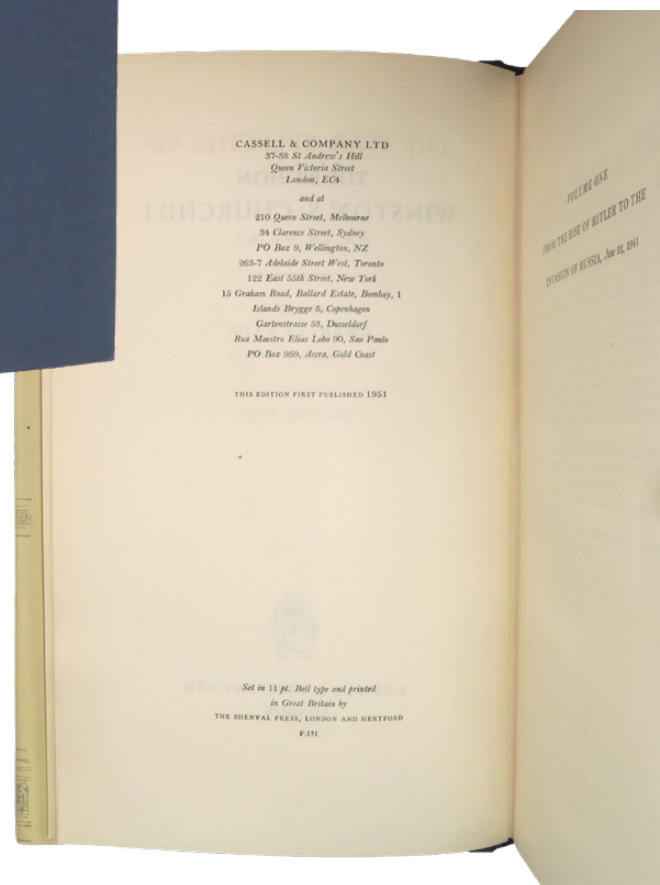
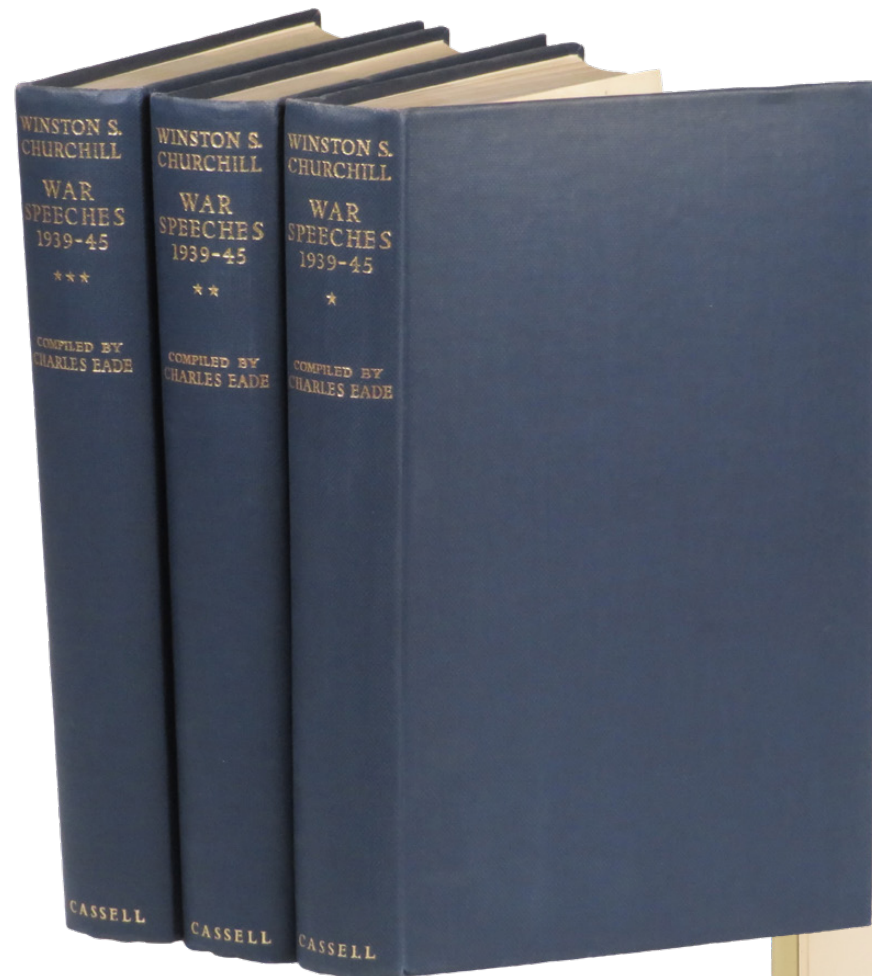
\$1,000 USD



Between 1941 and 1946, Churchill's war speeches were published in seven individual volumes. Charles Eade (1903-1964) played a critical role in their original publication, as well as in this edition issued during Churchill's second premiership. A noted figure in British journalism, Eade became editor of the *Sunday Dispatch* in 1938, a post he held until 1957. Eade was also an early radio sports commentator, and during the Second World War served as public relations advisor to Louis Mountbatten. In 1942, Eade stepped in as compiler of Churchill's wartime speech volumes, replacing Churchill's son, Randolph, who had been called to wartime service. Notably, he offered his services free of charge, stating, "my reward for the task would be the pleasure of doing

it" (7 May 1941 letter from Charles Eade to Kathleen Hill). Eade ultimately edited six of the seven wartime volumes - all except the first, *Into Battle*.

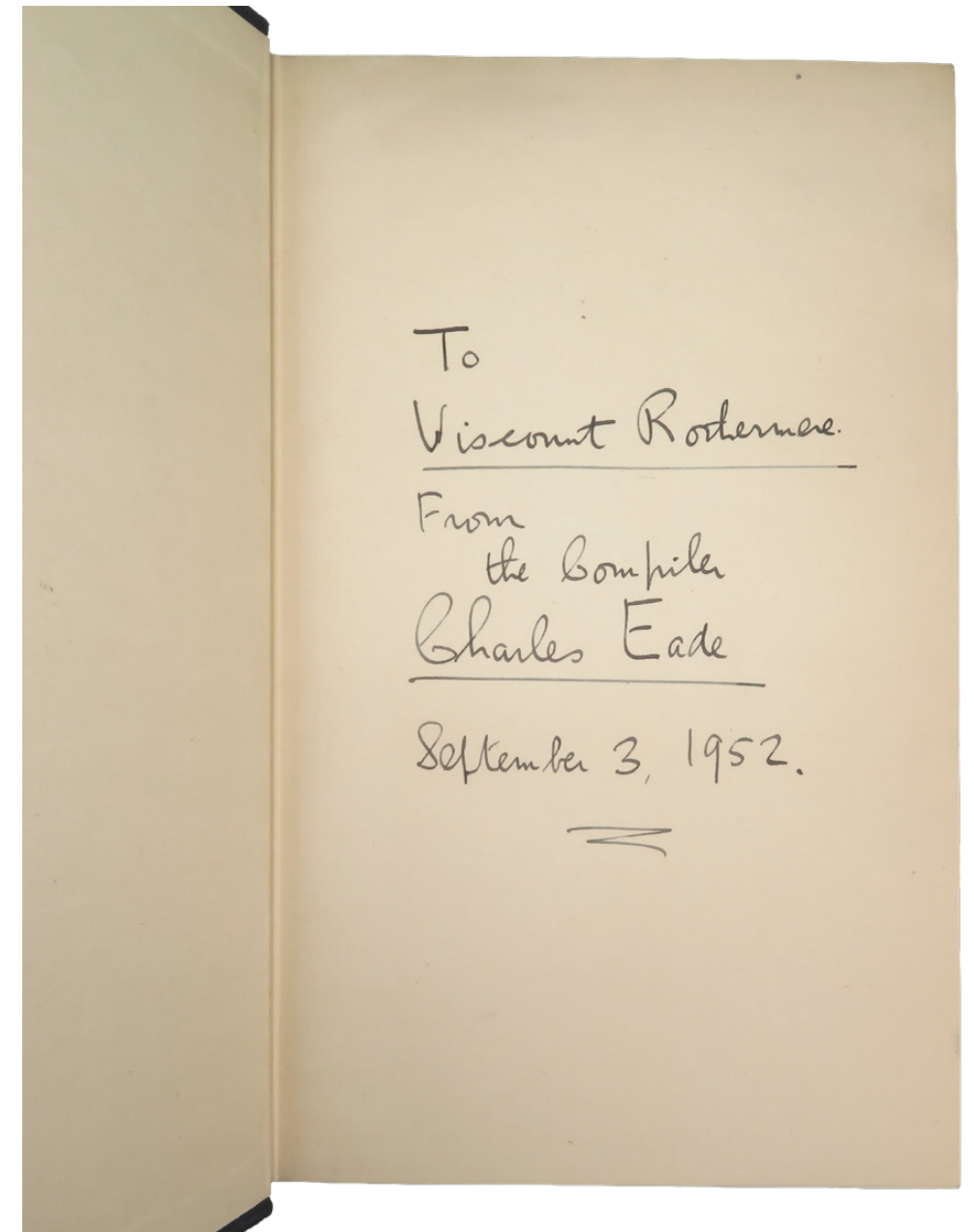
For this "definitive" three-volume edition of Churchill's war speeches, Eade returned to the role. He modified many speech titles, adding several speeches, and eliminating several for which he deemed "time has reduced their significance." The speeches "are linked, where necessary, with brief notes to form a complete, chronological story." Most welcome is the addition of an index, not present in the original wartime volumes. Eade later served as editor for *Churchill By His Contemporaries*.



Esmond Cecil Harmsworth, second Viscount Rothermere (1898-1978), served as Aide-de-Camp to Lloyd George at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference as a Conservative Member of Parliament for nearly a decade (1920-1929) before choosing to concentrate on newspaper business interests. His father was Harrold Sidney Harmsworth, first Viscount Rothermere (1868-1940), a newspaper proprietor known for his pre-war fascist and appeasement sympathies. His uncle was the publishing magnate Alfred Charles William Harmsworth, Viscount Northcliffe (1865-1922), who rose from freelance journalist to head the world's largest periodical publishing empire, Associated Newspapers, which at its peak included the *London Evening News*, *Sunday Dispatch*, *Daily Mirror*, and *The Times*. All three men were, of course, associates of Winston Churchill. By 1932 Viscount Rothermere was Chairman of Associated Newspapers. By 1934 he was elected chairman of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association and, by 1940, had succeeded his father, from which point he and Lord Beaverbrook were the two titans of British mass-circulation press.

Reference: Cohen A263.1(I-III).a, Woods/ICS A136(a.1), Langworth p.303. [CBC #004031]

\$2,750 USD



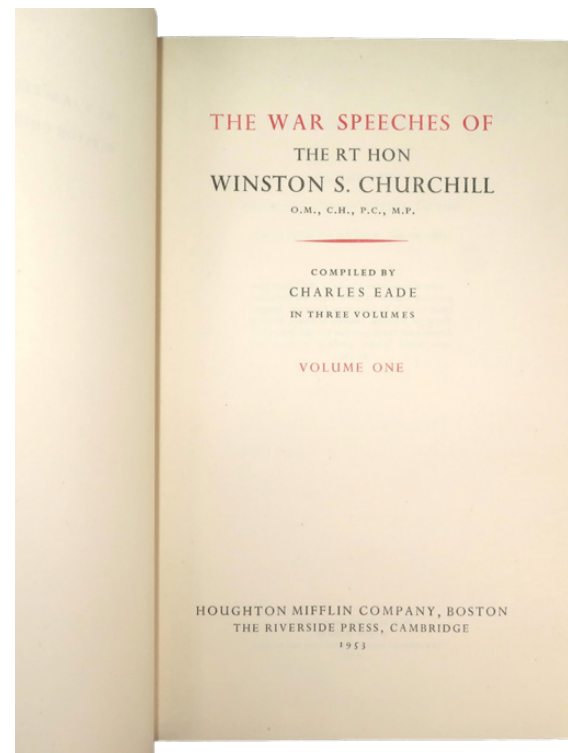
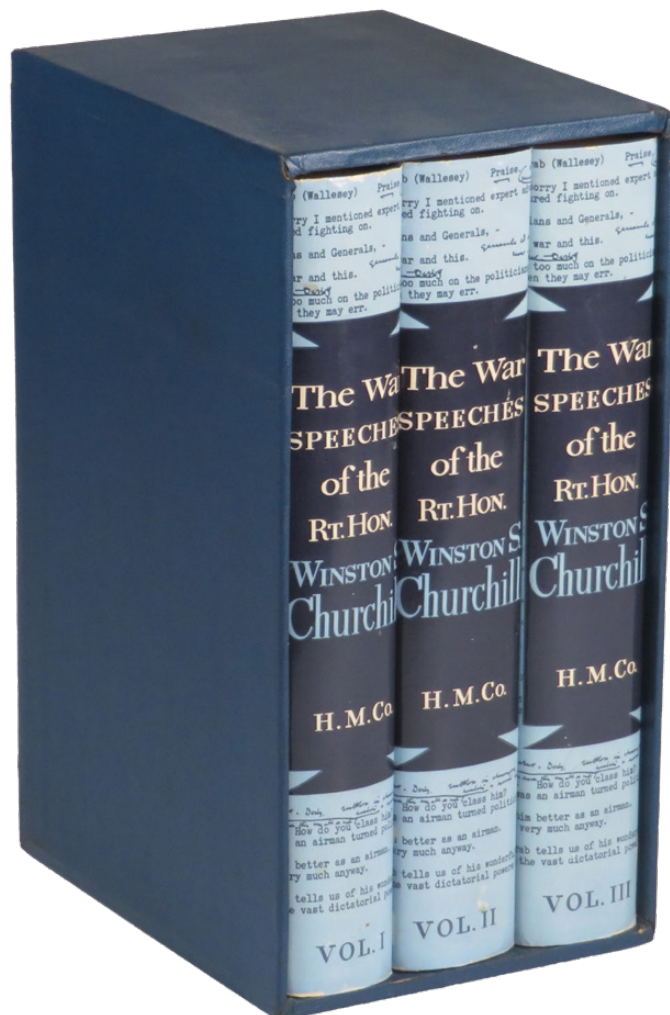
42

The War Speeches of the Rt. Hon. Winston S. Churchill The scarce U.S. issue of the three-volume “Definitive” edition published during Churchill’s second and final premiership *Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1953*

This is the quite scarce U.S. first “Definitive” edition, only printing of Churchill’s war speeches in both dust jackets and the extremely rare publisher’s slipcase – only the fourth set we have offered thus and definitively the best-preserved set we have encountered.

While there were 4,700 copies of the British first edition, this incredibly small U.S. edition was limited to a mere 500 sets. These 500 sets were produced from British edition sheets. Internally, only the title and copyright pages differ from the British edition, but this U.S. first edition was bound quite differently and more elaborately than its British counterpart. Each of the volumes features a black cloth spine decorated and printed in gilt, over red cloth boards. The contents are bound with yellow-stained top edge and head and foot bands. The light blue and black dust jackets are illustrated with a reproduction from Churchill’s hand-corrected typescript of the first Secret Session speech. Houghton Mifflin issued the three volumes in an undecorated navy leatherette slipcase.

This full U.S. three-volume set features beautiful fine volumes in very good plus dust jackets and slipcase. The volumes are immaculate inside and out, the bindings square and sharp-cornered, the contents crisp, clean, and tight, with no spotting or soiling, the topstain bright, the fore and bottom edges pristine.



Provenance is unequivocally Churchillian; the sole previous ownership marks are the printed sticker of “The Churchilliana Company” affixed to each lower rear pastedown and to each dust jacket verso. This was the bookselling enterprise of Dalton Newfield (1918-1982), not only the world’s first Churchill-specialist bookseller, but also the senior editor of the International Churchill Society’s journal, *Finest Hour*. As an American WWII veteran, Dalton returned from wartime Europe with both an English bride and an abiding respect for Churchill.

The dust jackets are clean and bright, with no toning and no losses apart from neatly price-clipped upper front flaps. Light wear is mostly confined to extremities, with a little superficial scuffing to the surfaces - most likely minor injury suffered by the jackets as they were removed or replaced in the original publisher’s dark blue leatherette slipcase. That slipcase is in superior condition, clean and fully intact with minor, superficial shelf scuffs and blemishes. All three dust jackets are now protected with clear, removable, archival covers.

Reference: Cohen A263.2, Woods A136(b),
Langworth p.305 [CBC #007242]

\$2,500 USD



The Second World War

“In War: Resolution
In Defeat: Defiance
In Victory: Magnanimity
In Peace: Goodwill”

(The “Moral of the Work” for Churchill’s *The Second World War*)

The “Moral of the Work” was first published in 1948 in Volume I of Churchill’s six-volume history, *The Second World War*. The words appear prominently and alone on the page immediately following the author’s Acknowledgements.

Perhaps some considered it banal or at least overly simplistic to ascribe any moral to the greatest conflict the world had yet seen. Churchill did not. The “Moral” testifies to both Churchill’s own statecraft and to the failures of statecraft that precipitated the Second World War – and would unfortunately persist in its wake.

The words also trace a vital arch underpinning Churchill’s political thought and character and spanning his public life. The guiding sentiments encapsulated by the “Moral” allowed Churchill, for all his reputed pugnacity, to achieve farsighted perspective and bridge material, empathetic, and intellectual differences throughout his long life.

Seldom, if ever, has history endowed a statesman with both singular ability to make history, and singular ability to write it. Churchill wrote history both figuratively and literally. And on no page of history did Churchill make a more indelible mark than that of the Second World War.

As with so much of what Churchill wrote, *The Second World War* is not “history” in the strictly academic, objectivist sense, but rather Churchill’s perspective on history. In his March 1948 introduction to the first volume, Churchill himself made the disclaimer, “I do not describe it as history... it is a contribution to history...”

Nonetheless the compelling fact remains, as stated by Churchill himself: “I am perhaps the only man who has passed through both the two supreme cataclysms of recorded history in high Cabinet office... I was for more than five years in this second struggle with Germany the Head of His Majesty’s government. I write, therefore, from a different standpoint and with more authority than was possible in my earlier books.” Certainly, *The Second World War* may be regarded as an intensely personal and inherently biased history. Nonetheless, Churchill’s work remains iconic, a vital part of the historical record.

The Second World War was published in six volumes between 1948 and 1954, during Churchill’s second and final premiership. Publication of the U.S. first edition preceded that of the British, making the U.S. the true first edition – unusual among Churchill’s book-length works.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill

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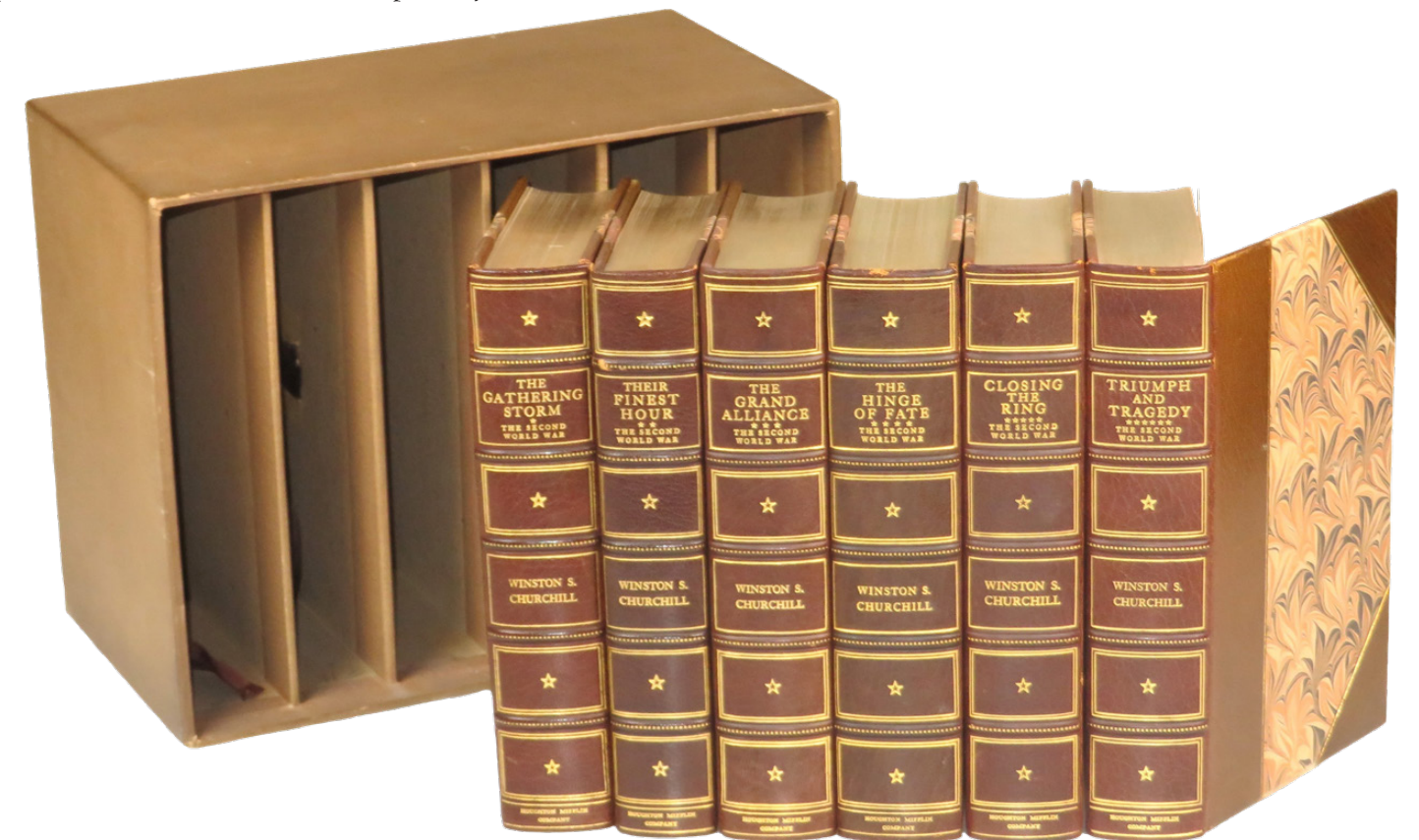
The Second World War

A full set of six U.S. first editions, one of seven sets finely bound and slipcased for presentation by the printer, Kingsport Press
Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1948-1953

This magnificent set is the printer’s special presentation binding of the U.S. first edition, first printing of *The Second World War*, Winston Churchill’s history of the epic 20th century struggle that was so indelibly stamped by his leadership. This is the only such set we have encountered, apparently unknown to both the collecting community and Churchill’s bibliographers - understandable since this is one of only seven sets bound thus.

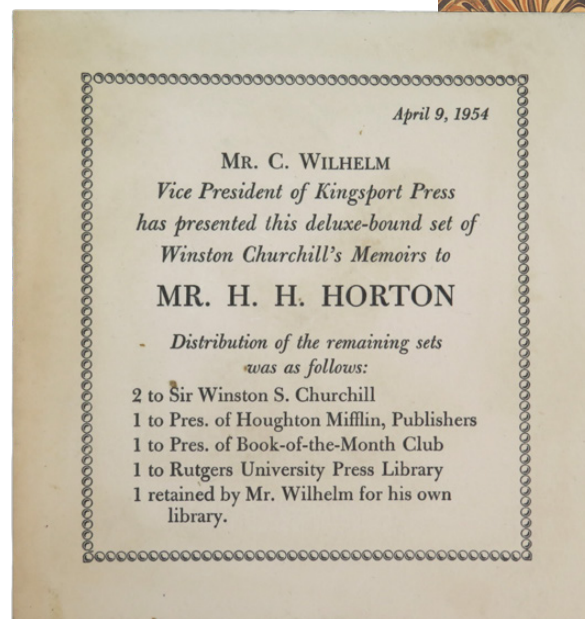
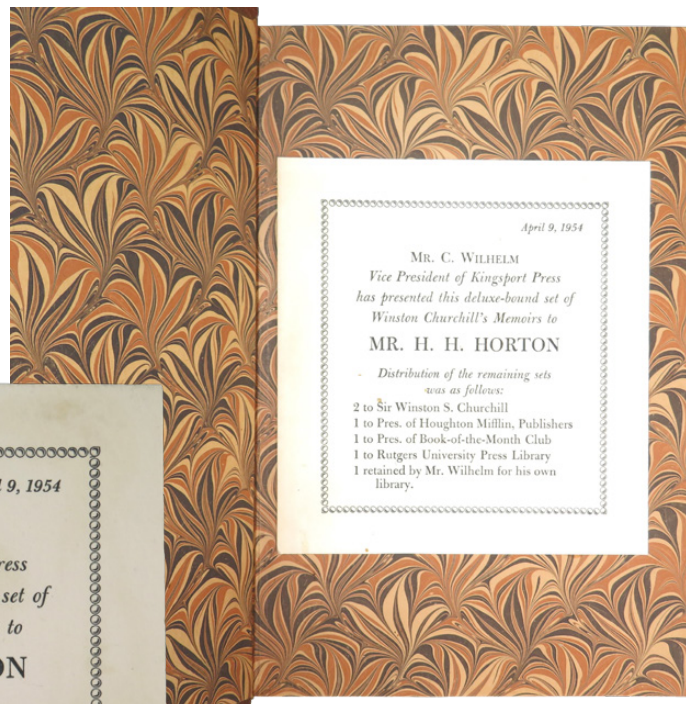
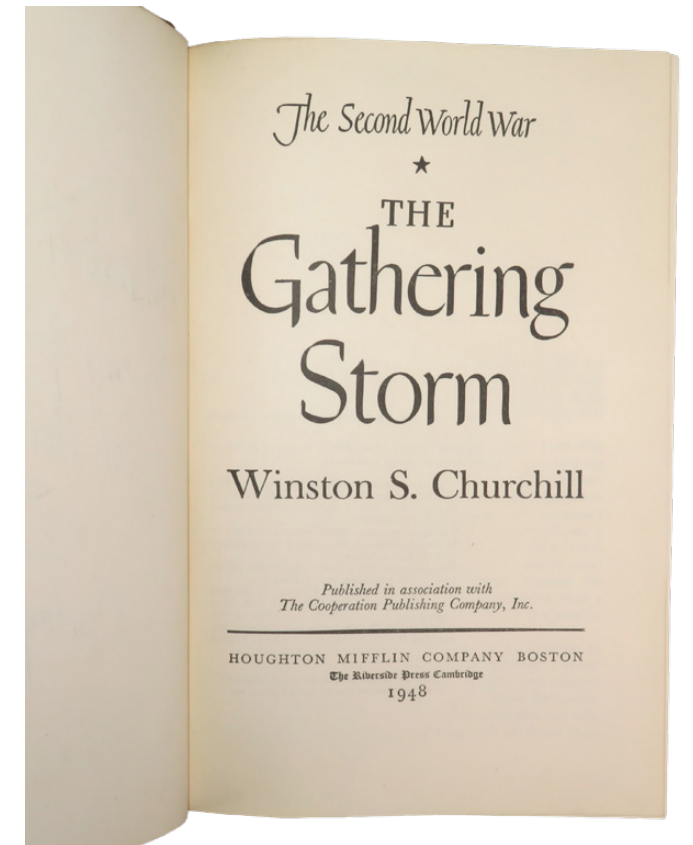
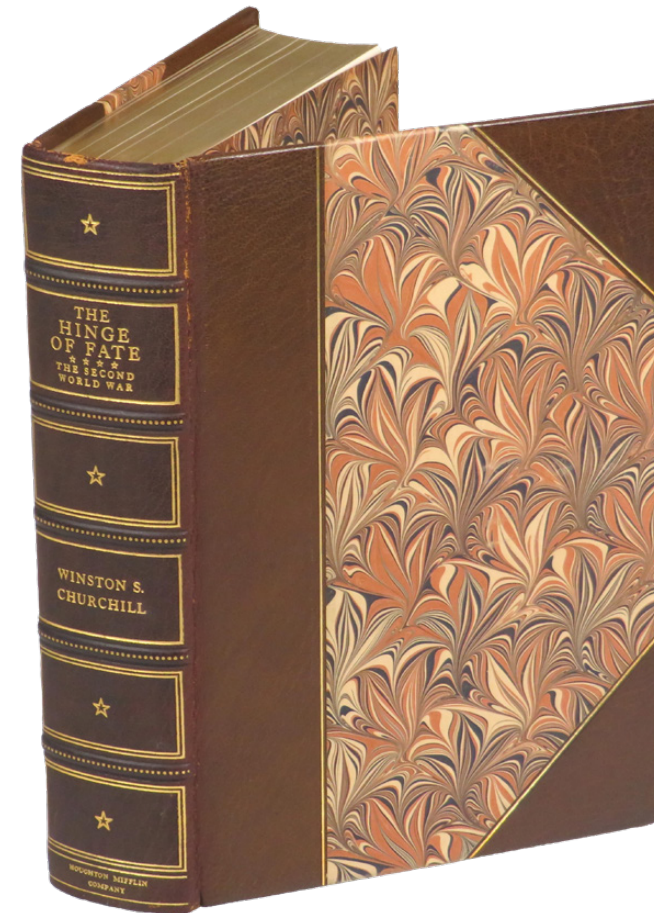
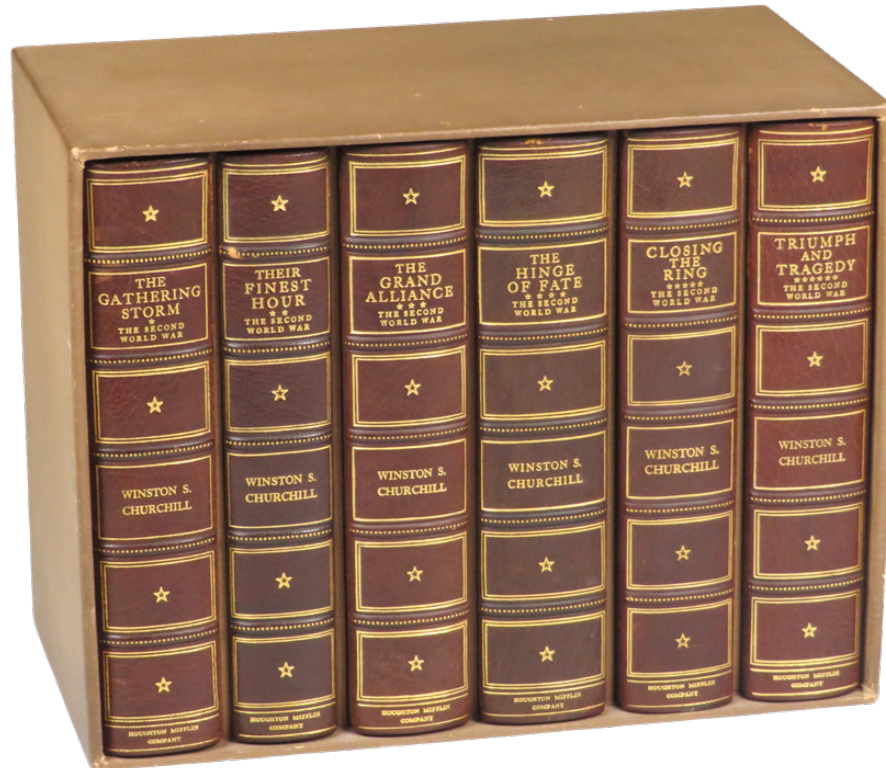
The bindings are compelling in both craftsmanship and appearance, featuring three-quarter brown Morocco goatskin with marbled paper-cover boards. The spines feature gilt-ruled compartments separated by raised and gilt-decorated spine bands. The covers feature gilt-ruled transitions. The contents are bound with gilt top edges, red and gold silk head and tail bands, and endpapers matching the marbled paper of the boards. The set is housed in a single, stout, brown cloth-covered slipcase with individual compartments for each volume, each compartment fitted with a brown ribbon pull to facilitate extraction of the volume within.

Condition approaches near fine. The bindings are square, tight, clean, and unfaded, showing only superficial wear to the joints, likely resulting from their snug fit within the slipcase. The first printing contents are bright, clean, and crisp with no spotting or age toning. The original slipcase shows scuffing, particularly to the bottom surface, and has lost two of the original six ribbon pulls, but is otherwise intact, and respectably clean.



This U.S. first edition preceded its British counterpart and is hence the true first edition, published in six volumes between October 1948 and November 1953. Kingsport Press commissioned this special presentation binding. A printed plate dated “April 9, 1954” reads: “Mr. C. Wilhelm | *Vice President of Kingsport Press* | *has presented this deluxe-bound set of* | *Winston Churchill’s Memoirs to* | MR. H. H. HORTON | *Distribution of the remaining sets* | *was as follows:* | 2 to Sir Winston S. Churchill | 1 to Pres. of Houghton Mifflin, Publishers | 1 to Pres. of Book-of-the-Month Club | 1 to Rutgers University Press Library | 1 retained by Mr. Wilhelm for his own | library.”

The Kingsport Press presentation plate, now laid in, was originally affixed to the Vol. I front free endpaper recto, evidenced by matching glue residue on the plate verso and front free endpaper. The only other previous ownership artefact in the set is a gift inscription inked on the recto of the blank preceding the Vol. I title page: “*With respect and affection* | *for my good friend* | *Hal Horton!* | *Sincerely* | “Curley” Wilhelm | 4-9-54”. Horton is unknown to us, but we may presume he was well-regarded by senior staff at Kingsport Press; we have also encountered a set of *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples* (also printed by Kingsport Press and specially bound by Kingsport) presented to Mr. Horton, identified therein as “Harold H. Horton”. (See item #52 at p.141.)

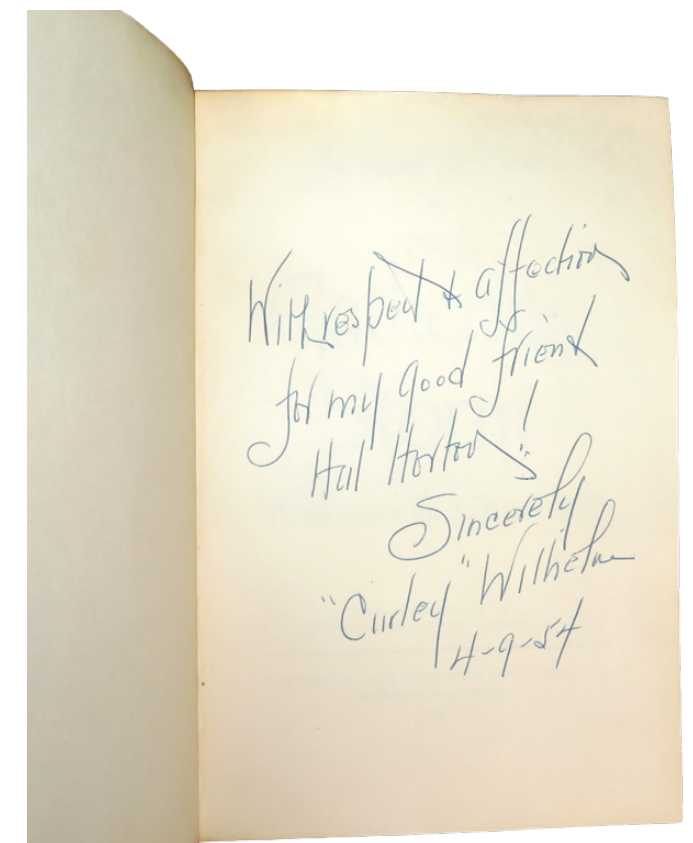


Tennessee-based Kingsport press was one of four printers of the first edition. Churchill’s bibliographer, Ron Cohen, explains “Production was divided among four printers: the Riverside Press, the Haddon Craftsmen, the Kingsport Press and H. Wolff... all plates were struck from the typesetting ordered by Houghton Mifflin and the title-page versos generally indicate which printers produced each volume”. (Cohen, Vol. I, A240.1(I).a, p.718) In the case of this set, the title page versos of five of the volumes indicate that they were printed by Kingsport Press, the first Volume – somewhat ironically the one with the Kingsport Press presentation plate and inscription – indicating that it was printed by “The Haddon Craftsmen”.

The rights to publish Churchill’s war memoirs has been called “perhaps the greatest coup of Twentieth Century publishing”. For Kingsport Press, the commission to print this iconic work brought not just commercial value, but reputational prestige – which may help explain why the printer undertook this elaborate binding.

Reference: Cohen A240.4(I-VI).a, Woods/ICS A123(ba), Langworth p.264. [CBC #007320]

\$6,500 USD



The Second World War

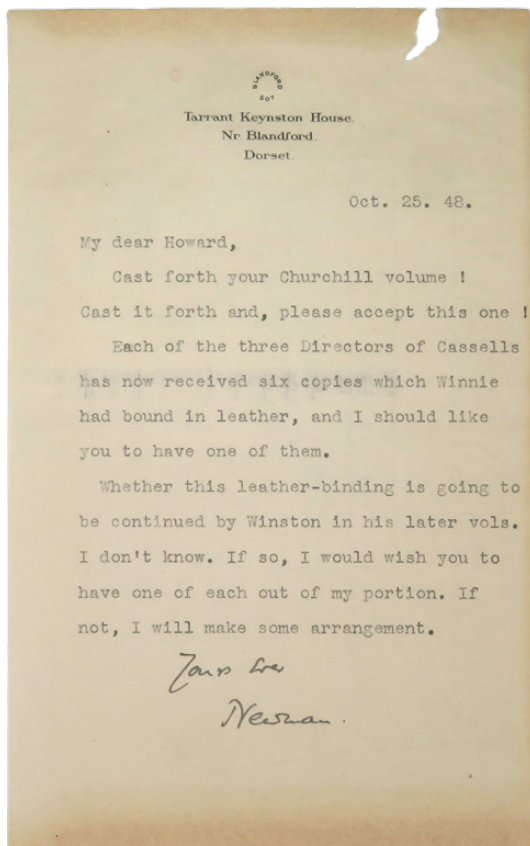
A full, six-volume set in the exceptionally rare full Morocco goatskin presentation binding of the British first edition commissioned by Churchill himself for the publishers, this unique example being a presentation set from the man who secured the publishing rights to “perhaps the greatest coup of Twentieth Century publishing” and providing essential information about the origin of these presentation sets

Cassell and Company Ltd., London, 1948-1954

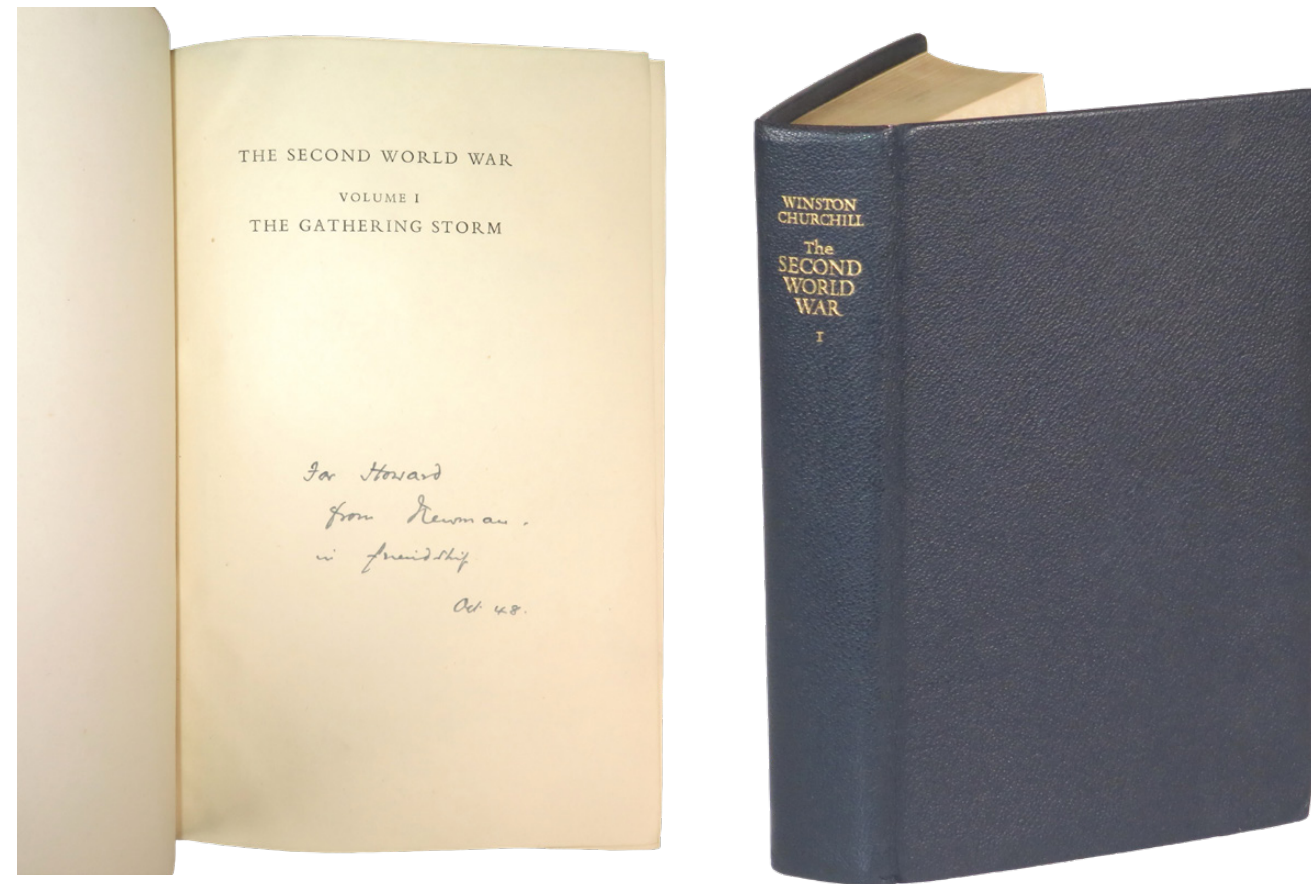
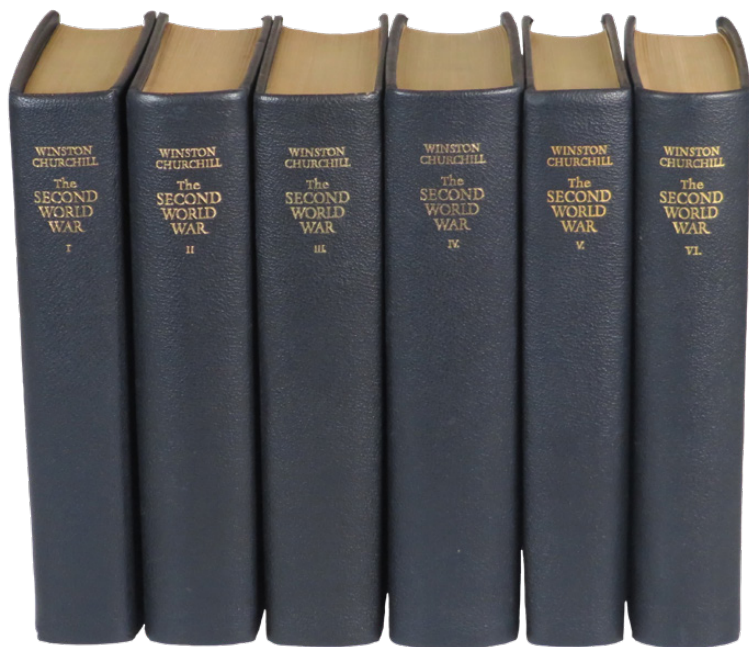
This six-volume first edition, first printing set of *The Second World War* is a truly exceptional example of the full Morocco presentation binding commissioned by Churchill himself. This is the rarest and most desirable British first edition issue of Churchill’s history of the epic 20th Century struggle that was so indelibly stamped by his leadership. Not only is this set in magnificent condition, but it questions long-standing assumptions about how many such sets were produced and decisively refutes the long-standing assumption that the publisher commissioned the bindings.

Navy is the new black

The six British first editions were published between October 1948 and April 1954, issued in black cloth bindings stamped gilt on the spines with uniform dust jackets featuring varying color print and uniform red spine sub-titles on a grey background containing alternating rows of rampant lions and Churchill’s initials. While truly fine sets in the original trade bindings are elusive, sets with typical flaws are not uncommon. Not so the handful of original first edition presentation sets bound in full goatskin.



Churchill’s first bibliographer, Frederick Woods, and Churchill expert Richard Langworth cite “One hundred sets” of the first edition, first printing “bound by Cassell in full black pebble-grain morocco for presentation.” Of note, close examination reveals that they are not actually “black” but rather a particularly dark navy that appears black absent a true black contrasting background. These finely bound presentation copies are elegantly and austere handsome, with first printing contents including original trade edition endpapers, top edge gilt, head and foot bands, gilt ruled turn-ins, and gilt author, title, and volume number spine print.



Condition

Condition alone renders this set compelling. All six volumes are in better than near fine condition. The bindings are nearly perfect – square, clean, bright, and tight with only trivial blemishes. The first edition contents, printed on post-war “Economy Standards” paper, proved highly prone to spotting. In this set, we find no spotting. The gilt top edges remain bright. We note only some unavoidable transfer browning to the perimeter of the endpapers from the leather turn-ins, minor age-toning, and a touch of soiling to the fore and bottom edges.

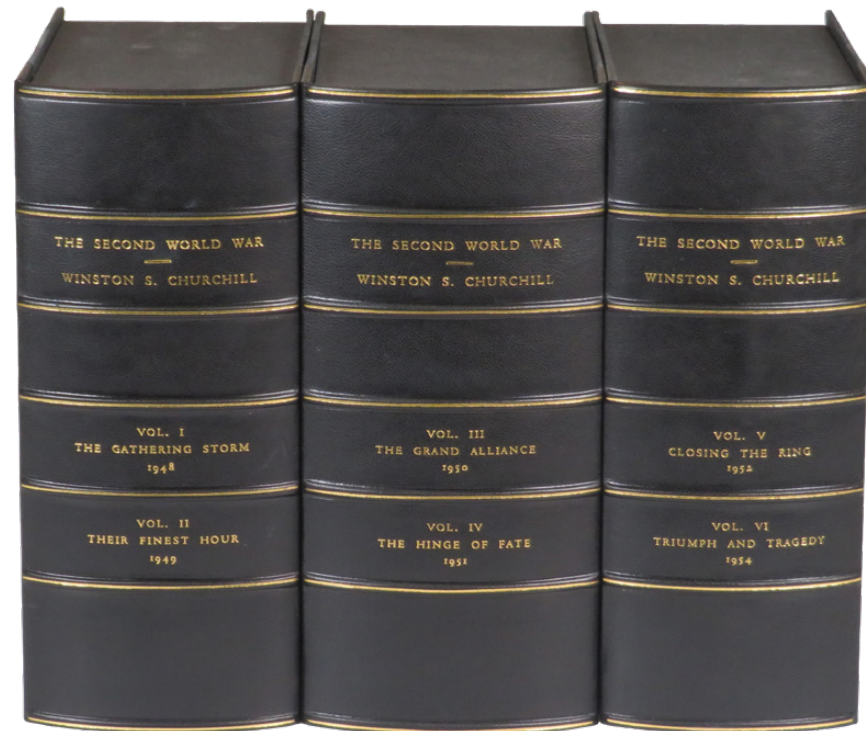
The set is housed in three Solander cases. Each case houses two volumes and features a rounded, black Morocco goatskin spine with raised, gilt-ruled bands and title, author, subtitles, volume numbers, and publication dates of the volumes therein printed in three compartments.

But condition is not this set’s most noteworthy attribute; rather, it is the artifacts documenting this set’s original presentation.

How many?

The one hundred such sets asserted by Churchill’s first bibliographer would render them sufficiently rare. However, *this* set suggests that the number of sets may have been as low as eighteen. Equally noteworthy is the clear testimony that it was not the publisher who arranged the bindings, but rather the author himself.

The set is inscribed by Cassell’s Director, Sir Newman Flower, who wrote in four lines on Volume I half title recto: “*For Howard | from Newman. | in friendship | Oct. 48.*” Laid in is a 25 October 1948 typed signed letter from Newman to Howard: “*Cast forth your Churchill volume! Cast it forth and, please accept this one! Each of the three Directors of Cassell’s has now received six copies which Winnie had bound in leather, and I should like you to have one of them. Whether this leather binding is going to be continued by Winston in his later vols. I don’t know. If so, I should wish you to have one of each out of my portion. If not, I will make some arrangement.*”



The publisher's Churchill's presentation binding

This set's presentation note from Newman Flower clearly questions Frederick Woods' original bibliographic report on both the number of copies issued and whether they were bound by the author or the publisher.

The matter of the bindings is decisively addressed and abundantly clear (“...which Winnie had bound in leather...”). Regarding the number of sets produced, we can make varying inferences. In the end, we are obliged to defer to Woods, who had access to now-vanished Cassell personnel and publishing records when his own Bibliography was published in 1963. The eighteen copies that Sir Newman Flower's letter specified were for the “three Directors of Cassells” might have been a subset of the 100 total. Moreover, even though this set informs us that Churchill did make arrangements for the presentation sets to be finely bound, it is entirely plausible that this work should have been done at Cassell. Nonetheless, it is exciting to a bibliophile to see the long-standing assumptions questioned by a 1948 presentation letter from the very man who secured the publication rights. And the set – beautifully bound, magnificently preserved, and with its inscription and letter – adds a layer of history to that printed on its pages. [CBC #007241]

\$19,500 USD

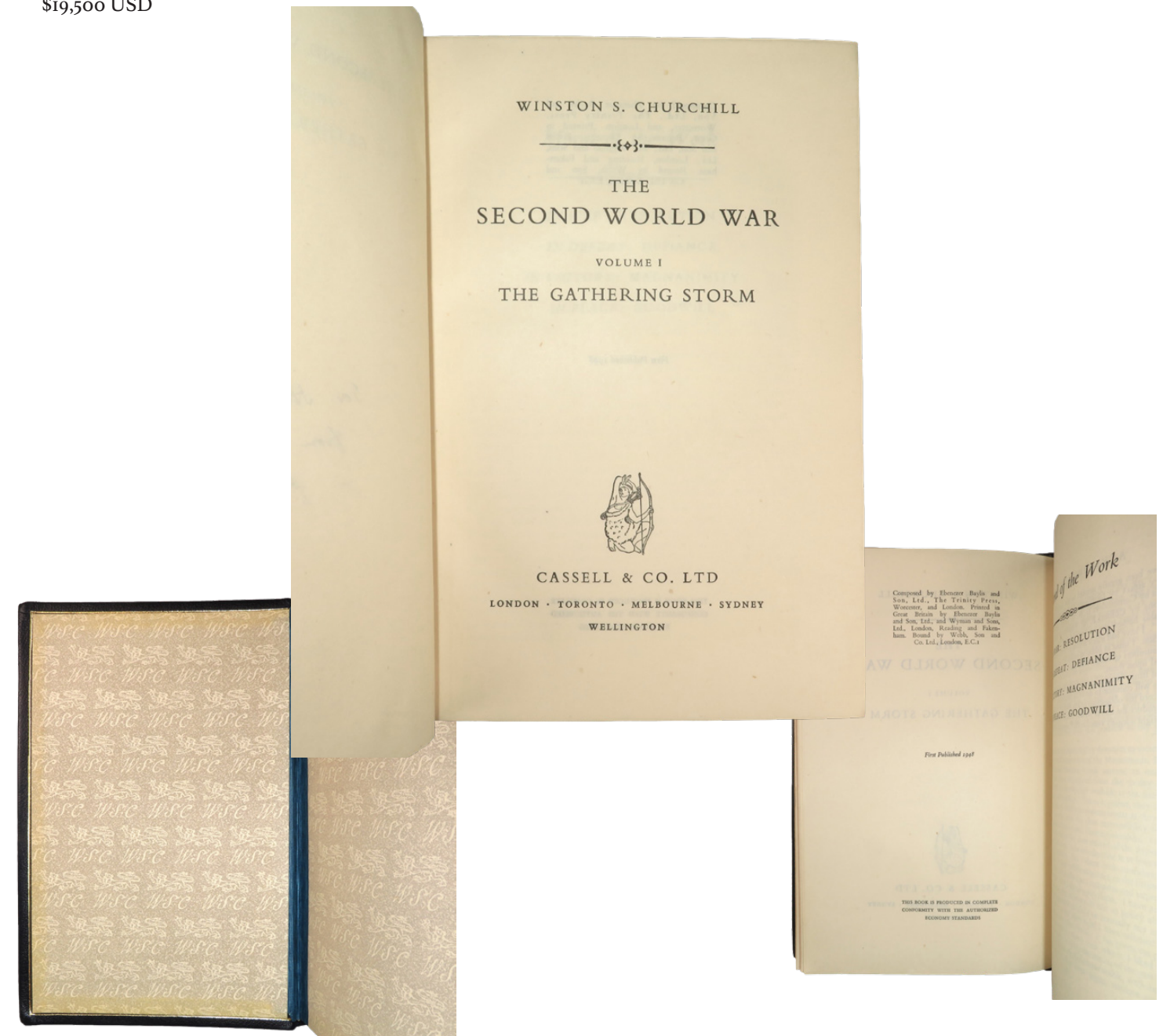
“perhaps the greatest coup of Twentieth Century publishing”

Sir (Walter) Newman Flower (1879-1964) already had three decades' experience as an accomplished editor and publisher when he purchased the book-publishing part of Cassell in 1927 from Lords Camrose and Kemsley. Flower retired from Cassell in 1946, passing the reins to his son, but remained Chairman of the Board.

Securing the rights to publish Churchill's war memoirs has been called “perhaps the greatest coup of Twentieth Century publishing.” It was Sir Newman Flower who arranged this coup. When Churchill was offered a large sum for the film rights to the yet-unpublished *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, Flower had his moment. Cassell owned the film rights, which Flower offered to surrender in return for first refusal on Churchill's anticipated war memoirs. On 24 November 1944, Churchill consented, writing to Flower: “I shall be very pleased to give your firm a first refusal, at the lowest price I am prepared to accept, of publishing rights in serial and book form... in any work I may write on the present War after it is over.” Churchill specified “I undertake no obligation to write anything.”

The two caveats reflected the advice of Churchill's lawyers and the author's characteristic hard-nosed (even ruthless) negotiating when it came to extracting value for his writing. Nonetheless, the agreement set the stage for Cassell's publishing triumph. Of course, Churchill inevitably wrote his war memoirs, and of course Cassell did what it took to accommodate Churchill's expectations. Among other things, Churchill's six-volume work proved the essential asset to Cassell's postwar recovery.

Churchill Bibliographer Ron Cohen speculates that the recipient of this set might well have been Howard Dare Denny, who was the third Manager of Cassell's Australia. Denny served as Manager from 1924 to 1947, and died in 1960 – late enough to have received all six volumes of *The Second World War*. Ron speculates that “it would be quite logical to suppose that Sir Newman Flower, who was a major figure at Cassell's London offices over those same two plus decades, would have written such a personal note” to Denny. Both men were succeeded by their sons, Denny's son Cyril Dare Denny taking over Cassell Australia operations in 1947.

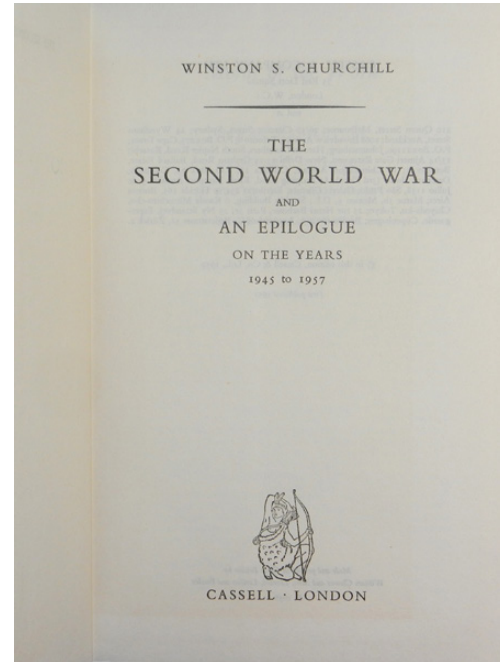


45

The Second World War and an Epilogue of the Years 1945-1957 Cassell and Company Ltd., London, 1959

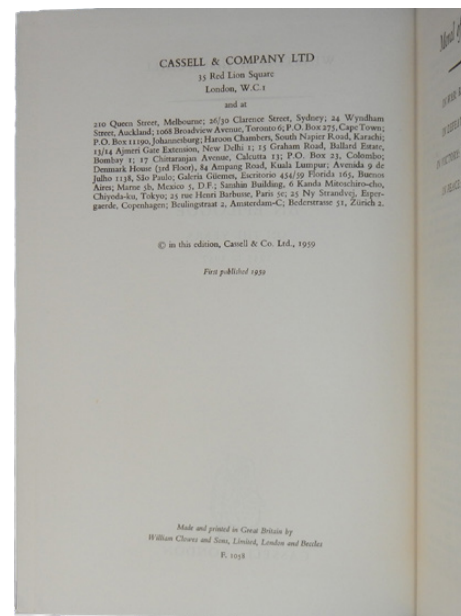
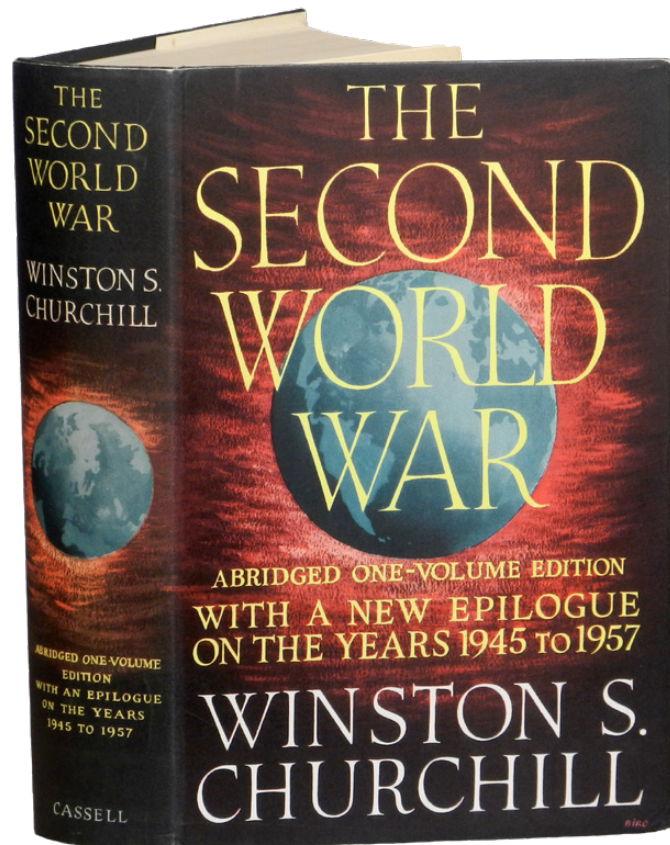
This is an exceptional copy of the first British one-volume, abridged edition of Churchill's history of the Second World War, the epic 20th century struggle so indelibly stamped by his leadership. This substantial single volume is not just an abridgement, but a bibliographically significant work whose Epilogue is among the last original writings by Churchill published in his lifetime. Specifically for this edition, Churchill wrote a 10,000-word Epilogue on the years 1945-1957 - years which include Churchill's second and final premierships (1951-1955).

Condition is near fine in a near fine plus dust jacket - certainly the best-preserved copy we have encountered. The black cloth binding is beautifully square, clean, and tight with bright spine gilt. Trivial shelf wear appears confined to the bottom edges. The contents are clean and bright with no spotting. The sole sign of previous ownership is the tiny sticker of a London bookshop affixed to the lower front pastedown - that of "Claude Gill Books", once a proud and flourishing bookshop right in the centre of the West End of London, at the Marble Arch end of Oxford Street. The dust jacket is perhaps even more impressive than the volume itself - improbably clean, bright, and complete with no loss, fading, or soiling and only the slightest hints of shelf wear to extremities. The lower front flap is unclipped, retaining the original publisher's price. This lovely jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.



Reference: Cohen A240.8.a,
Woods/ICS A123(ca.1),
Langworth p.266. [CBC #007252]

\$200 USD



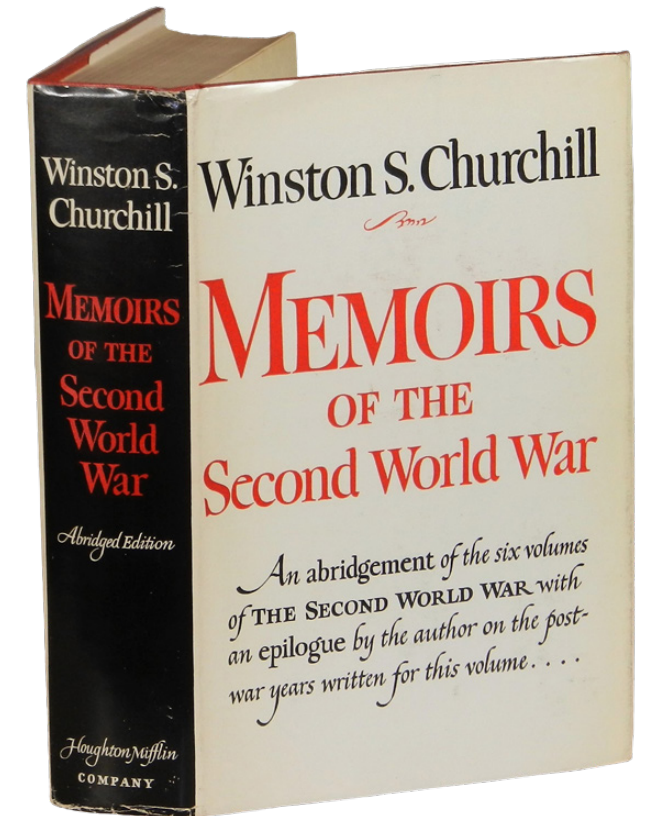
46

Memoirs of the Second World War Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1959

This is Churchill's abridgement of his six-volume history of *The Second World War*, a notably clean copy of the first U.S. edition.

This is not merely an abridgement, but a bibliographically significant work containing Churchill's last original writing for a book publication. Specifically for this edition Churchill wrote a 10,000-word Epilogue on the years 1945-1957 - years which include Churchill's second premierships. Moreover, this U.S. first abridged edition incorporates some textual differences from the British edition. There were two quite different binding variants of the first U.S. edition. The more commonly seen binding is green cloth. Here instead is the red cloth binding, bound in the same style as the unabridged first U.S. edition (published in six volumes between 1948 and 1953).

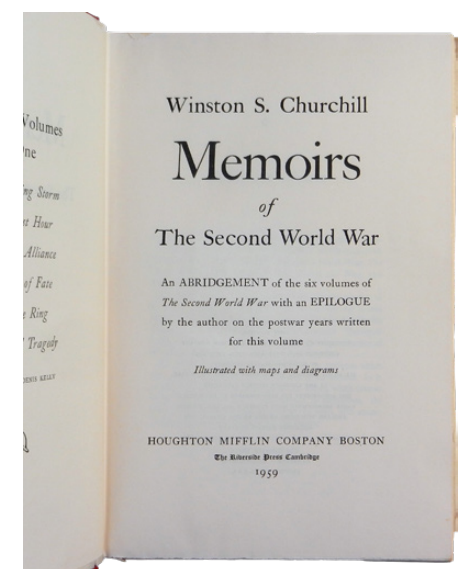
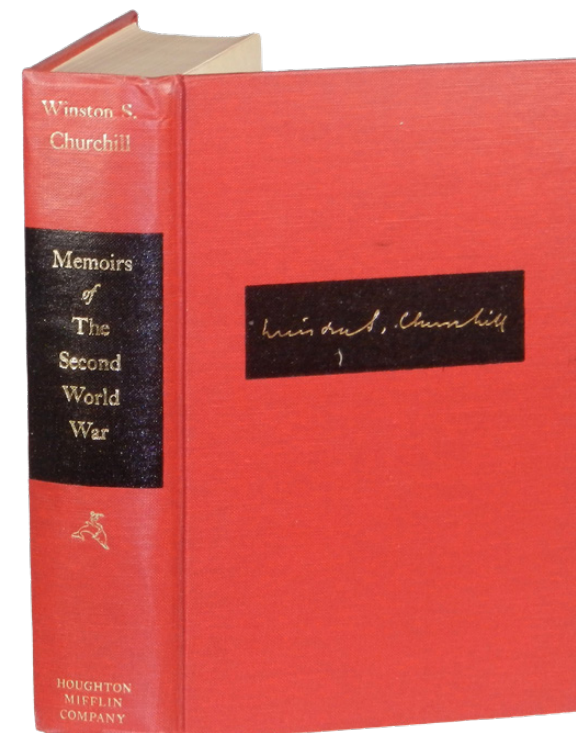
Superior, collector worthy copies are now surprisingly challenging to find. This example is near-fine plus in a near-fine dust jacket. The red cloth binding is bright, clean, tight, and square with bright gilt and virtually no wear. Some wrinkling to the spine ends and a miniscule bump to the lower rear cover corner are the only appreciable exterior flaws. The contents are exceptional - pristine with no spotting and no previous ownership marks. Even the page edges, including the untrimmed fore edges, remain immaculate.



Langworth (pages 267-268) cites two dust jacket variants for the first edition, first printing, with front flap pricing of either \$8.75 or \$9.00. This is the former. The dust jacket is entirely complete, not only unclipped, with the original "\$8.75" front flap price still intact, but with no loss. We note minor wear to the spine ends and trivial hits of soiling to the white faces. The dust jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover.

Reference: Cohen A240.9.b,
Woods/ICS A123(cb), Langworth
p.267. [CBC #004425]

\$100 USD



47

*The Postwar Speeches, a full set of jacketed first editions:
The Sinews of Peace, Europe Unite, In the Balance, Stemming
the Tide, and The Unwritten Alliance*
Cassell and Company Ltd., London, 1948-1961

The Postwar Speeches

Churchill's five postwar speech volumes span the period from Demobilization in late 1945, when Churchill was Leader of the Opposition, through his second Premiership (1951-1955) into a time when Churchill passes "into a living national memorial" of the time he lived and the Nation, Empire, and free world he served.

The events encompassed by these years are in many ways no less dramatic than those of the war years – including the unraveling of the British Empire, the post-war recovery, the onset of the Cold War, Soviet acquisition of the atomic bomb, development of the hydrogen bomb, and the beginning of the space age. Even at the waning of his life and career, Churchill met and framed these exceptional times with a singularly experienced voice. By the time Churchill's first postwar speeches volume was published, his oratorical prowess was unrivaled in public life. Churchill had a remarkable full half century of vigorous public speaking and dozens of published volumes to his credit. Before his final volume of postwar speeches was published, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature, both for his books and "for brilliant oratory in defending exalted human values."

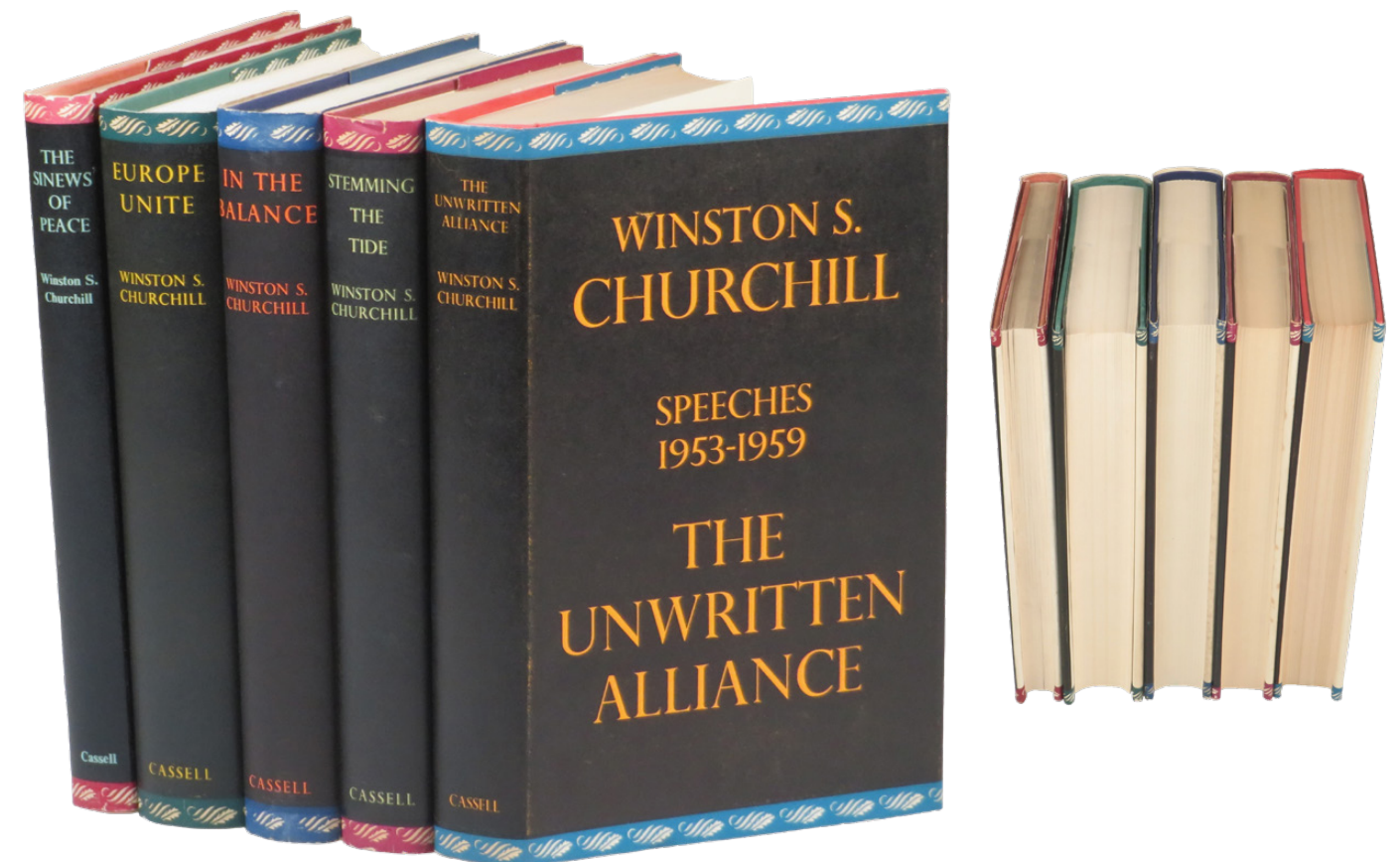
Among the many noteworthy speeches in this volume are Churchill's famous "Iron Curtain" speech given at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri on 5 March 1946, where Churchill coined the phrase that described the division between the Soviet Union's sphere of influence and the West, incisively framing the Cold War that would dominate the second half of the twentieth century. There is Churchill's 7 May 1948 speech to the Congress of Europe, which, along with other speeches, showed Churchill to be an early, ardent, and vital advocate of pan-European integration, and lent impetus to what would eventually become the European Union. There is also Churchill's speech "The Twentieth Century - Its Promise and Its Realization," delivered in the spring of 1949 to an international conference tasked with exploring the socio-political implications of scientific progress. This speech is a tour de force survey of the period 1900-1945 that is at once incisive and lyrical, humbling and inspiring.

The fifth and final volume, *The Unwritten Alliance*, is the last of Churchill's books published in his lifetime. There was no concurrent U.S. edition, meaning that a full set of U.S. postwar speeches comprises only four volumes to the British five. There is an interesting symmetry here; Churchill's first published book, *The Story of the Malakand Field Force*, also lacked a concurrent U.S. edition.

Here is a jacketed set of all five of Churchill's post-WWII speech volumes, increasingly challenging to assemble thus. This set is unequivocally the best we have ever encountered, and virtually unobtainable thus.

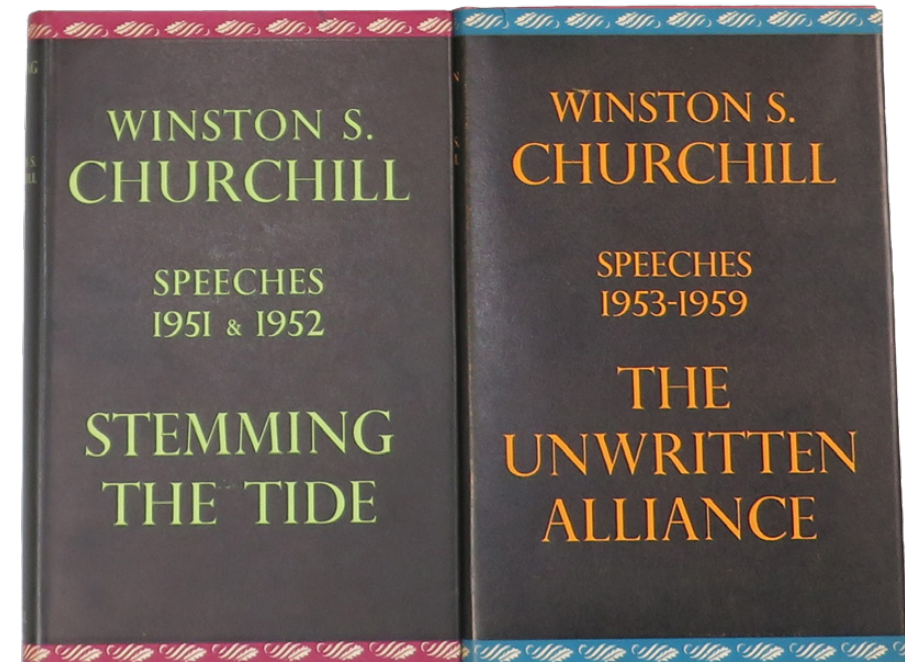
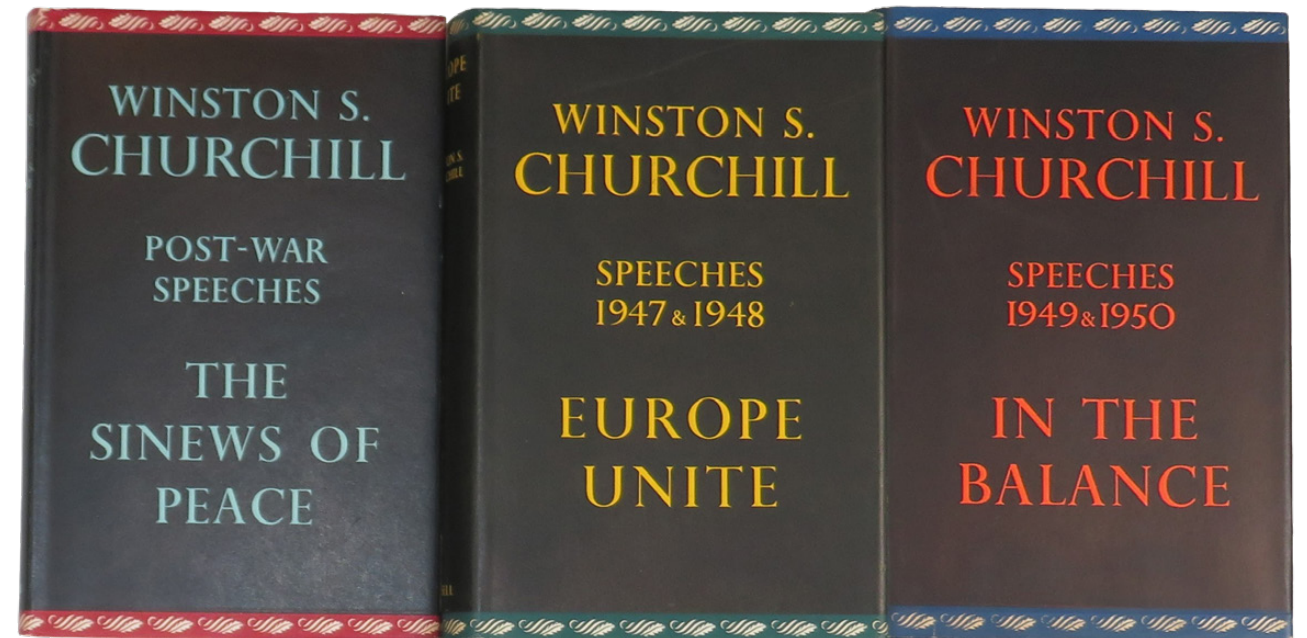
All five volumes in this set are in truly fine condition, their jackets near fine plus or better. All five cloth bindings are strikingly clean, tight, and square with sharp corners, bright spine gilt, and virtually no wear. The contents of all five volumes are uniformly bright and as clean as the come. We find no spotting. We find no previous ownership marks. Even the page edges are impressively clean, with only light dust soiling to the top edges of *The Sinews of Peace* and a hint of age-toning to the otherwise immaculate *Stemming the Tide* and *The Unwritten Alliance* page edges.

The dust jackets are remarkably impressive. All five jackets are unclipped, retaining the original front flap prices. All five jackets are entirely unfaded, with exceptional color and shelf presentation. Trivial shelf wear is confined to extremities and perhaps no worse than might be encountered if these books were brand new and just shelved in a local bookstore. *Stemming the Tide* has the more desirable and elusive first state dust jacket. The only flaw of note is a bit of spotting to the white flap fold corners of *In the Balance* and *Stemming the Tide*. All five dust jackets are fitted with clear, removable, archival covers.



These volumes span the period from Demobilization in late 1945, when Churchill was Leader of the Opposition, through his second Premiership (1951-1955) into a time when Churchill passes “into a living national memorial” of the time he has lived and the Nation, Empire, and free world he has served.

The five British first editions of the postwar speeches are uniform in height and were issued in striking black dust jackets with a border along the top and bottom of the jacket featuring a repeating white oak leaf design. The background color for the oak leaf border and the spine and front cover print color vary with each volume. The dust jacket rear faces and flaps are white, printed black. The bindings are bound in a simple, uniform style, but vary in cloth color.



These postwar speech volumes are much scarcer than Churchill’s War Speeches volumes; each of these five books had only a single printing. Moreover, not all of the sheets of the fourth volume (*Stepping the Tide*) were issued in a dust jacket matching the rest of the volumes; the later issue dust jacket is solid black.

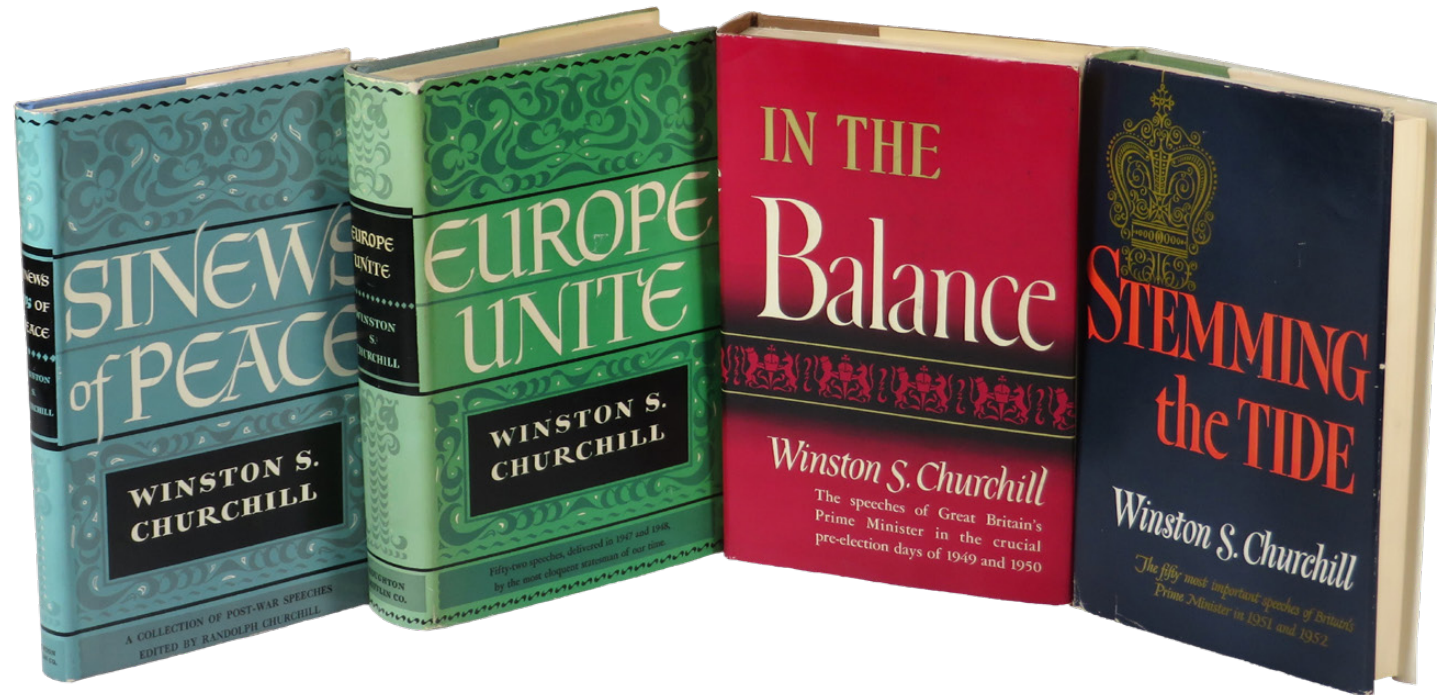
Reference: Cohen A241.1, A246.1, A255.1, A264.1, A273; Woods/ICS A124(a), A128(a), A130(a), A137(a), A142; Langworth pages 184, 296, 301, 309, 338 [CBC #007245]

\$3,000 USD

48

The Postwar Speeches, a full set of jacketed U.S. first editions: The Sinews of Peace, Europe Unite, In the Balance, and Stemming the Tide

Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1948-1954



Here is a full set of U.S. editions of Churchill's postwar speeches in the scarce dust jackets. These volumes span the period from immediately after the second World War, when Churchill was Leader of the Opposition, through the end of 1952, during his second and final Premiership.

The events encompassed by these years are in many ways no less dramatic than those of the war years - the unraveling of the British Empire, the post-war recovery, the beginning of the Cold War, Soviet acquisition of the atomic bomb and U.S. invention and first testing of the hydrogen bomb.

The U.S. postwar speeches were published in very small numbers, making jacketed U.S. editions much scarcer than their British counterparts. Of note, the U.S. postwar speeches comprise only four volumes, as the fifth and final volume, *The Unwritten Alliance*, had no U.S. edition.

The U.S. editions of Churchill's postwar speeches were produced in far fewer numbers than the British editions. A full set of U.S. postwar speeches comprises only four volumes, as the final volume, *The Unwritten Alliance*, had no U.S. edition. Like their British counterparts, the four U.S. first editions are uniform in height with varying binding colors. Unlike their British counterparts, there is not a consistent binding design. The U.S. edition dust jackets also vary considerably. The first two volumes - *The Sinews of Peace* and *Europe Unite* - have the same dust jacket design, differentiated only by background color. The final two U.S. dust jackets - those for *In the Balance* and *Stemming the Tide* - each have a unique design.

This is the best jacketed set of U.S. editions we have encountered. This set features fine volumes in near fine dust jackets. All four volumes are square, clean, and tight with sharp corners and only minor shelf wear to extremities. The contents of all four volumes are bright and clean with no previous ownership marks. Even the page edges are impressively clean. The sole internal blemish we find is a small rectangular instance of transfer browning, roughly the size of a business card, confined to the blank verso of the *Stemming the Tide* Introduction, roughly at the center gutter. Whatever was once laid in is now gone. The sole instance of spotting in the set appears to be just a few scattered spots confined to the top edges of *Europe Unite*.

All four dust jackets are unclipped, retaining the original front flap prices, complete, with no loss, and uncommonly bright and clean. All four jackets have light shelf wear to extremities. Only the *Stemming the Tide* dust jacket shows appreciable scuffing beyond extremities, in this case to the lower spine, but even this jacket more than compensates with impressive shelf presentation, bright, unfaded red print, and exceptionally clean white rear panel and flaps. All four dust jackets are protected beneath clear, removable, archival covers.

Reference: Cohen A241.2, A246.2, A255.2, A264.2; Woods/ICS A124(b), A128(b), A130(b), A137(b); Langworth pages 285, 297, 302, 310 [CBC #007246]

\$1,000 USD



49

Painting as a Pastime

Odhams Press Limited, Ernest Benn Limited, London 1948

Painting as a Pastime

This is Churchill's essay about his famous hobby. It had been printed in *The Strand* magazine as early as 1921, but it was not until 1948 - nearly three decades after his first published words on the subject - that Churchill consented to a book about his hobby and passion.

Soldier, writer, and politician, Churchill was perhaps an unlikely painter. Nonetheless, he proved both a prolific and passionate one. Churchill first took up painting during the First World War. May 1915 saw Churchill scapegoated for failure in the Dardanelles and slaughter at Gallipoli and forced from his Cabinet position at the Admiralty. By November 1915, Churchill was serving at the Front, leading a battalion in the trenches. But during the summer of 1915, as he battled despondency, he rented Hoe Farm in Surrey, which he frequented with his wife and three children. One day in June, Churchill noticed his brother's wife, Gwendoline, sketching in watercolors. Churchill borrowed her brush and swiftly found solace in painting, which would be a source of release and renewal for the remaining half century of his long life.

Winston's wife Clementine had opposed the idea of her husband's opining in print on the subject, concerned that he might be belittled by professional painters and others. Clementine aside, it may be that Churchill's comparative reticence on the subject was to keep something personal in the great and turbulent sweep of his otherwise tremendously public life. He wrote: "Painting is a friend who makes no undue demands, excites to no exhausting pursuits, keeps faithful pace even with feeble steps, and holds her canvas as a screen between us and the envious eyes of Time or the surly advance of Decrepitude" (*Painting as a Pastime*, p. 13).

Whatever Churchill's reason for penning and ultimately consenting to book publication of *Painting as a Pastime*, the relatively few words he offered on the subject add something truly personal and different to the great body of his writing.

The British first edition is an attractive little book, but the coarse, pale green cloth binding proved highly susceptible to soiling and sunning and the thin maroon and white dust jacket (with a front face image of Churchill at his easel) incredibly vulnerable to wear. Hence collector-worthy copies are elusive.

The U.S. first edition was published in February 1950. Though made from slightly trimmed British sheets, it is externally quite different in appearance from the British first edition. Three binding variants and two different publisher variants have been observed among U.S. first edition, first printing copies. Like its British counterpart, the U.S. dust jacket features a front face image of Churchill at his easel, but on a blue-grey background rather than maroon.

THE RT. HON. WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, C.H., M.P.

This is the first edition, first printing of *Painting as a Pastime*, Churchill's essay about his famous hobby. This is the best-preserved copy we have encountered, fine in a near fine dust jacket.

The pale green cloth binding is square, immaculately clean, tight, and unfaded, with strong gilt and sharp corners. The contents are beautifully bright. A trivial, barely discernible hint of spotting appears confined to the endpapers. The sole previous ownership mark is a tiny Sussex bookshop sticker affixed to the lower front pastedown. The dust jacket is unclipped, retaining the original lower front flap price, and complete, with no loss. The maroon hue is entirely unfaded, with no color shift between the front cover and spine. Wear is quite light for this notoriously fragile jacket, confined to the flap folds, front joint, and spine ends. Soiling is trivial, the white face and front cover illustration of Churchill painting bright. The dust jacket is protected beneath a clear, removable, archival cover. The book is housed in a rigid, marbled paper-covered slipcase featuring maroon and gray hues complementary to the dust jacket.

Reference: Cohen A242.1.a, Woods/ICS A125(a), Langworth p.288. [CBC #007243]

\$400 USD

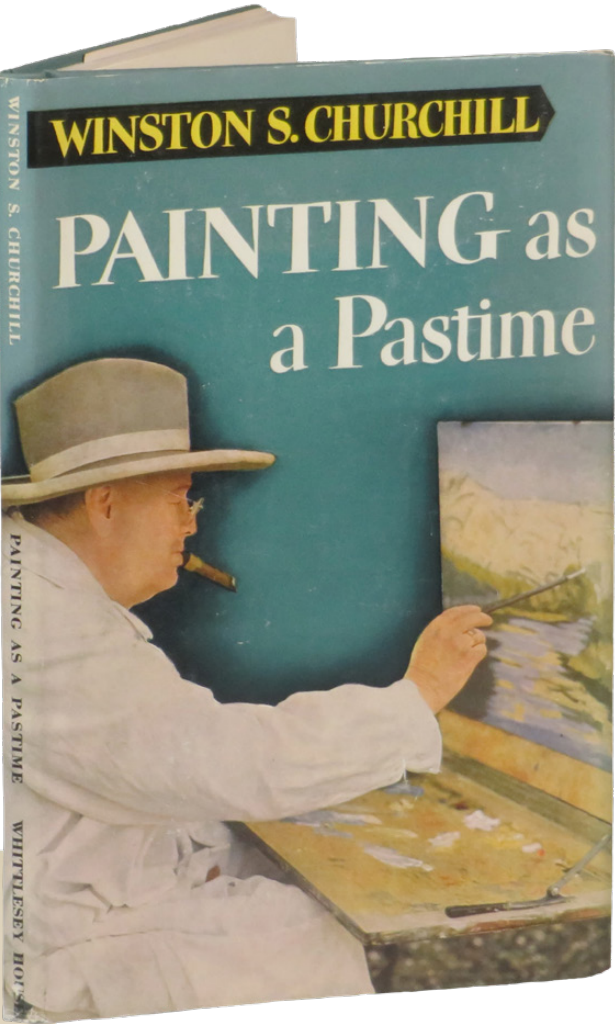
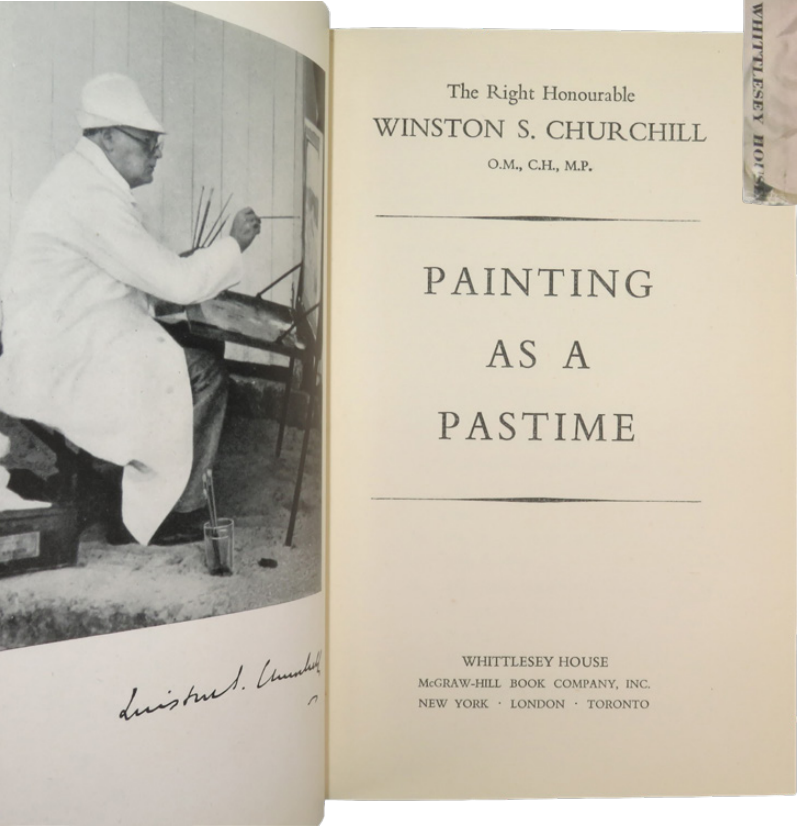


Painting as a Pastime

Whittlesey House McGraw-Hill Book Company Inc., New York, 1950

This is the U.S. first edition, first printing of *Painting as a Pastime*, Churchill's essay about his famous hobby. It had been printed in *The Strand Magazine* as early as 1921, but it was not until 1948 - nearly three decades after his first published words on the subject - that Churchill consented to a book about his hobby and passion. This U.S. first edition followed its British counterpart in 1950

This is the best-preserved copy we have encountered, fine in a near fine plus dust jacket. The dark turquoise binding is immaculately clean, square, and bright - entirely unfaded with sharp corners and no wear. The contents are crisp, clean, and bright. We find no spotting or age-toning. The sole previous ownership mark is a neatly inked name and contemporary date of "April 1950" inked on the front free endpaper recto. The dust jacket is beautifully clean, bright, and complete, with no loss and retaining the original "\$2.50" upper front flap price. Trivial hints of wear are confined to the spine ends and corners. The dust jacket is protected with a clear, removable, archival cover.



Reference: Cohen A242.3, Woods/ICS A125(b),
Langworth p.290. [CBC #007244]

\$250 USD

A History of the English-Speaking Peoples

Churchill's four volume epic, *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, was published between 1956 and 1958. The work traces a sweeping historical arc from Roman Britain through the end of the Nineteenth Century, ending with the death of Queen Victoria. Perhaps not coincidentally, this is the very year that saw Churchill conclude his first North American lecture tour, take his first seat in Parliament, and begin to make history himself.

The work itself was two decades in the making. The Churchillian conceptions that underpinned it were lifelong.

Churchill began *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples* in the 1930s, completing a draft of "about half a million words" which was set aside when Churchill returned to the Admiralty and to war in September 1939. The work was fittingly interrupted by an unprecedented alliance among the English-speaking peoples during the Second World War - an alliance Churchill personally did much to cultivate, cement, and sustain. The interruption continued as Churchill bent his literary efforts to his six-volume history, *The Second World War*, and then his remaining political energies to his second and final premiership from 1951-1955.

The cultural commonality and vitality of English-speaking peoples animated Churchill throughout his life, from his Victorian youth in an ascendant British Empire to his twilight in the midst of the American century. Churchill, the child of an American mother and descended from British nobility on his father's side, paid particular heed to the 'special relationship' between Britain and the United States. Perhaps to some extent he regarded himself as a personification of that relationship. When Churchill first addressed the U.S. Congress on 26 December 1941, he famously quipped: "I cannot help reflecting that if my father had been American and my mother British, instead of the other way around, I might have got here on my own."

Among the English-speaking peoples, Churchill considered Britain and the United States in particular "united by other ties besides those of State policy and public need." During his wartime speech at Harvard, among the "ties of blood and history" Churchill cited were, "Law, language, literature - these are considerable factors. Common conceptions of what is right and decent, a marked regard for fair play, especially to the weak and poor, a stern sentiment of impartial justice, and above all the love of personal freedom, or as Kipling put it: 'Leave to live by no man's leave underneath the law' - these are common conceptions on both sides of the ocean among the English-speaking peoples" (6 September 1943 speech at Harvard University).

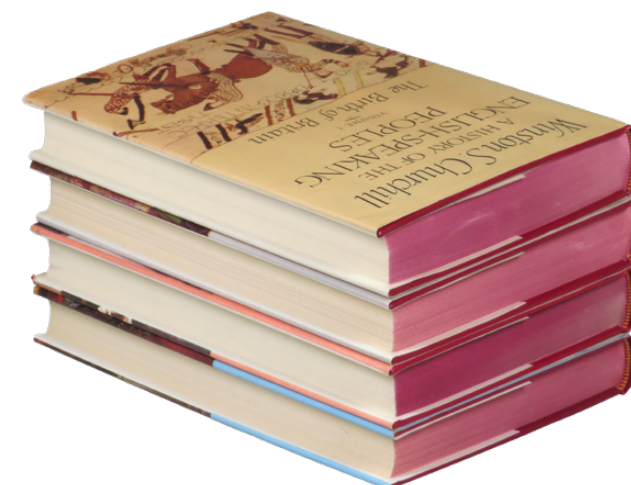
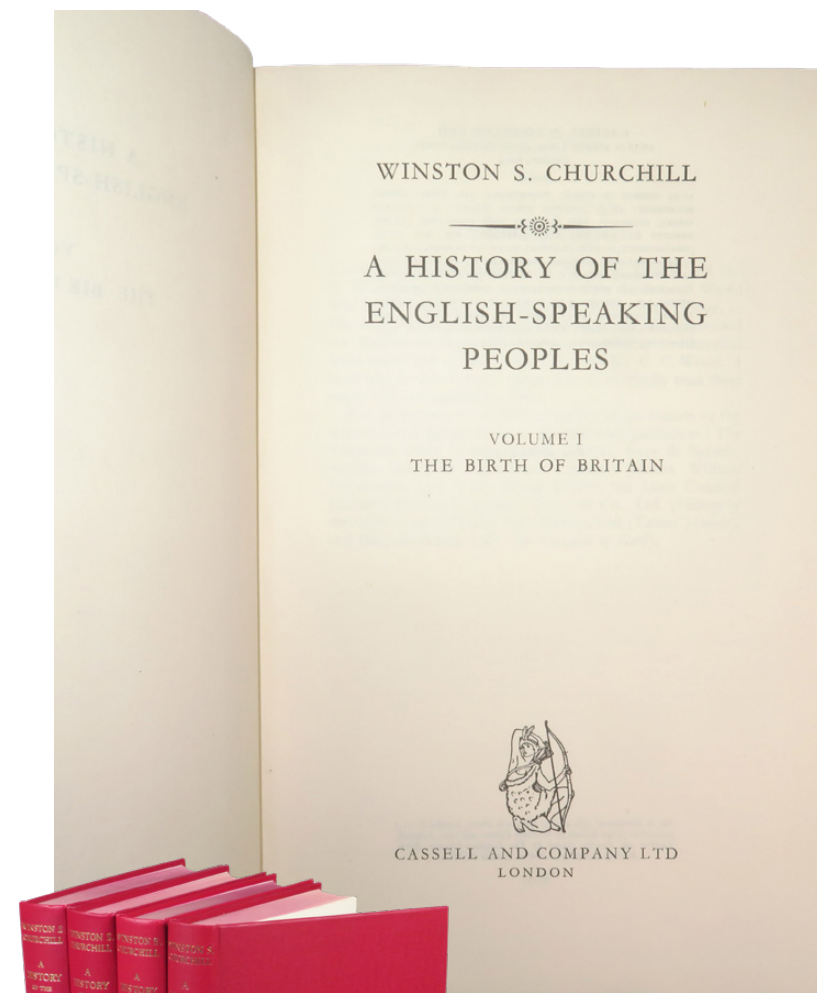
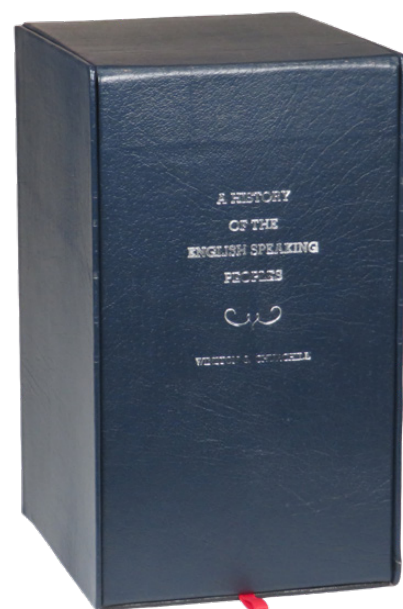
The reinforcement and constructive application of these common conceptions - upon which so much of 20th century history hinged - would continue to the very end of Churchill's life and career. Indeed, Churchill's aspirations and anxieties about this 'special relationship' are encapsulated in the title of his last published book of speeches in 1961, *The Unwritten Alliance*.

Uniquely in the Churchill canon, the British, U.S. and Canadian first editions of *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples* were published simultaneously. Volume I was published on 23 April 1956. The fourth and final volume was published on 17 March 1958.

51

A History of the English-Speaking Peoples Cassell and Company, Ltd., London, 1956-1958

This is a magnificent, full, four-volume British first edition, first printing set of Churchill's sweeping history and last great work. This first edition is regarded as one of the most beautiful productions of Churchill's works, with tall, red volumes and striking, illustrated dust jackets. Churchill seems to have taken an active and detailed interest in the aesthetics of the publication. He told his doctor: "it is not necessary to break the back of the book to keep it open. I made them take away a quarter of an inch from the outer margins of the two pages and then add the half-inch so gained to the inner margin." He was clearly satisfied with the result, remarking with pardonable exuberance: "It opens like an angel's wings." (Gilbert, Volume VIII, p.1184) Unfortunately, as beautiful as the first editions are, they proved somewhat fragile. The dust jackets commonly suffer significant fading, wear, soiling, and spotting, and the books typically bear spotting and fading of the red-stained top edges.



Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



This set is a delightful exception to the norm, the very best we have ever encountered, featuring truly fine volumes in truly fine dust jackets. The red cloth bindings are uniformly square, clean, bright, and tight with sharp corners. The contents are improbably clean and bright with a crisp, unread feel. We find no previous ownership marks and no spotting. The top edges are clean and retain strong red hue, while the fore and bottom edges are as clean and bright as the interior pages. The dust jackets are a treat - crisp, splendidly bright, and entirely complete, retaining the original front flap prices and free of any loss, tears, or appreciable wear. Shelf presentation is superb. The jackets are fitted with clear, removable, archival covers. All four volumes are housed together in a full, navy, Morocco goatskin case with dropback top and front, magnetic closure, ribbon pull tab, and silver title and author print.

Reference: Cohen A267.1(I-IV).a, Woods/ICS A138(aa), Langworth p.315. [CBC #007247]

\$2,750 USD

52

A History of the English-Speaking Peoples

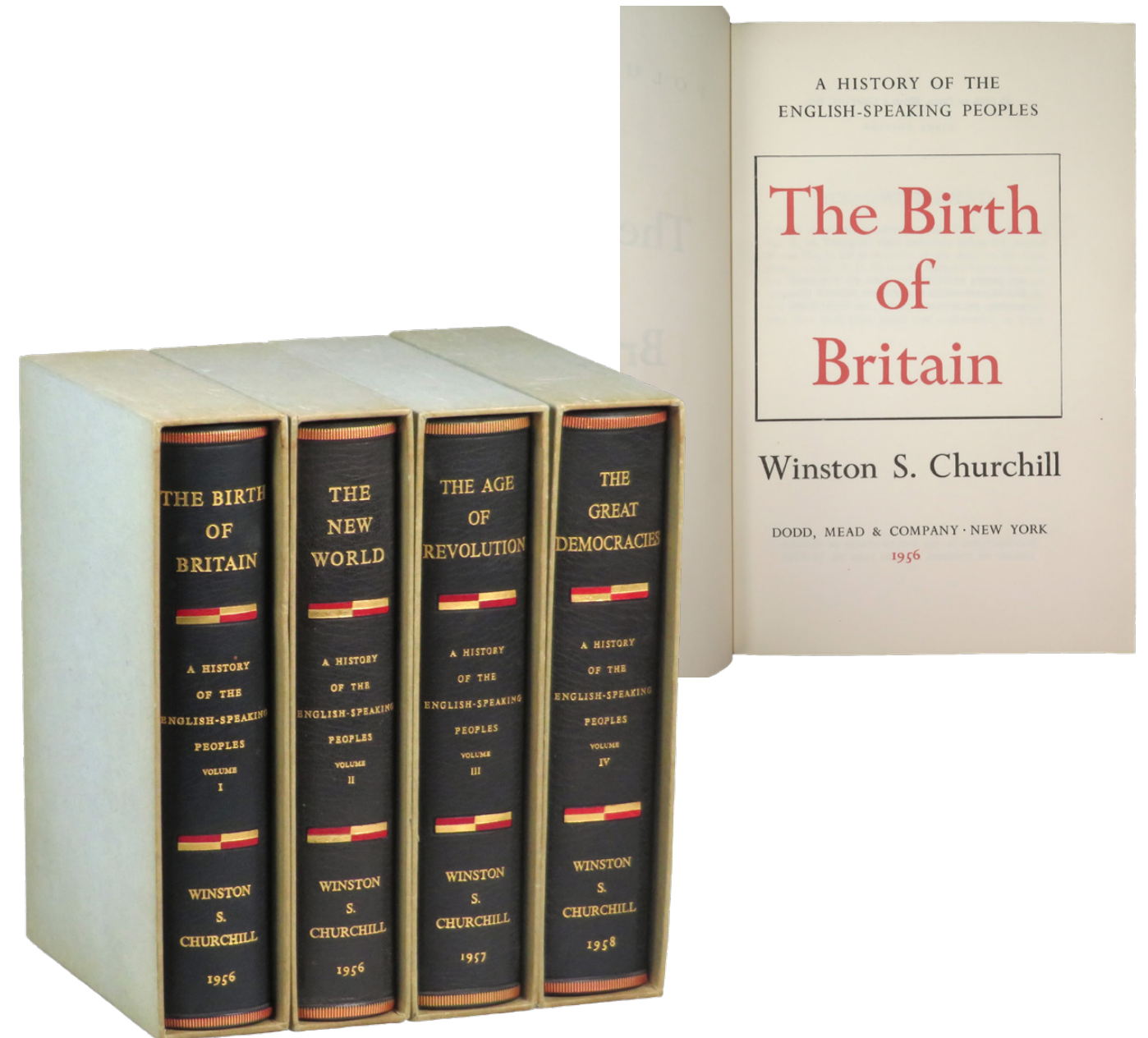
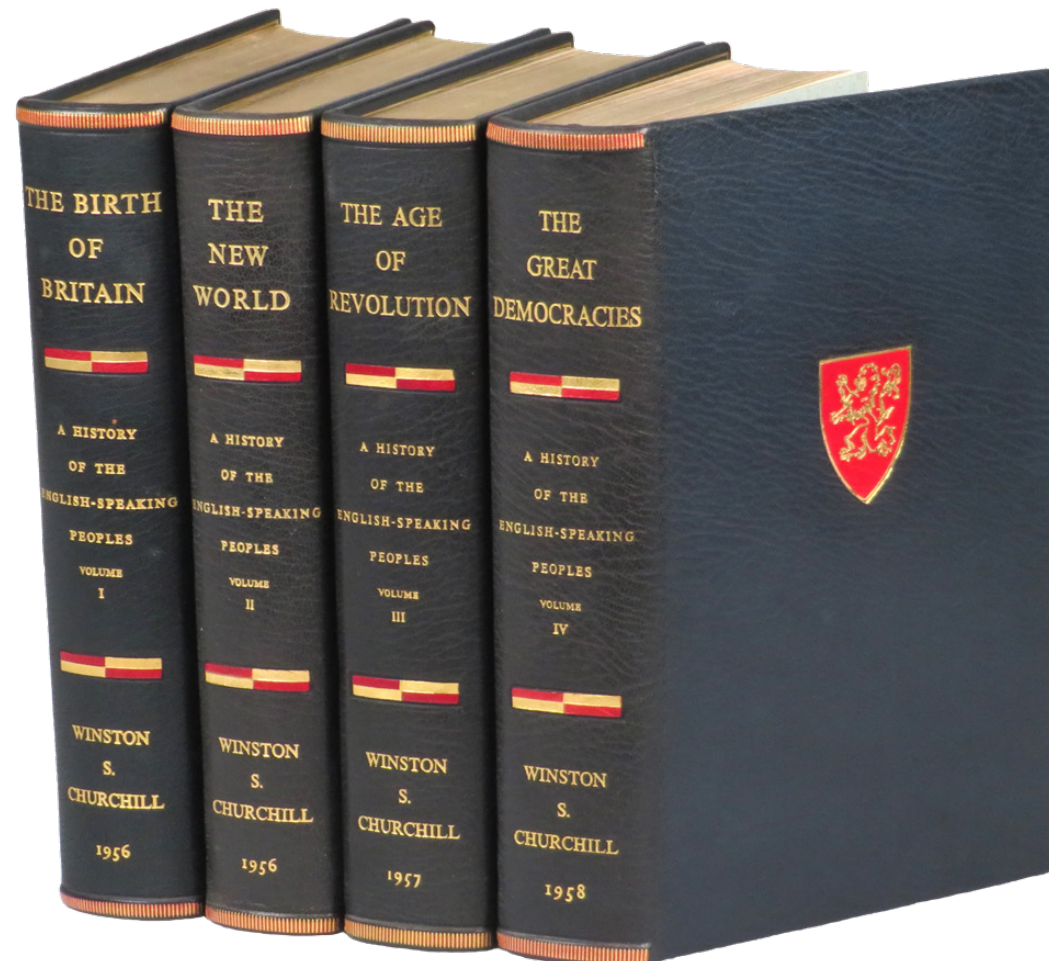
The printer's specially bound presentation set of the U.S. first edition

Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1956-1958

This magnificent set is the printer's special presentation binding of the U.S. first edition of Churchill's sweeping history and last great work. This one of only two such set we have encountered, and is unrecorded by Churchill's bibliographers.

The work was issued in four volumes between 1956 and 1958. This U.S. first edition was printed by Kingsport Press for the U.S. Publisher, Dodd, Mead & Company, Inc. There were publisher presentation sets of the first edition, so noted on the copyright pages, but such sets were not specially bound.

This set is simply magnificent in both the quality and aesthetic effect of the full navy Morocco goatskin bindings. The bindings feature gilt print and gilt and red decoration on the spines and front covers, a gilt lion rampant within a gilt-framed red shield on each front cover. The first printing contents feature gilt top edges and are bound with red and gold silk head and tail bands, navy silk ribbon markers, and pale blue endpapers framed by double gilt rule turn-ins. The bottom turn-in of each rear pastedown features the gilt-stamped signature "BOUND BY KINGSPORT PRESS". Each volume is housed in an undecorated, heavy card slipcase covered in the same pale blue paper as the endpapers.



Condition of the set is better than near fine, the contents immaculate, the lovely bindings bright and clean with only trivial scuffs and blemishes. The original slipcases are clean and fully intact with little wear, though the blue paper in which they are covered has grayed. More pronounced toning to the slipcase spines explains the splendid condition of the books; we infer that the books were conscientiously long-stored with the book spines facing protectively in on the shelf, allowing the slipcase spines to absorb any sun exposure.

This sole previous ownership artefact in this set is the small, printed bookplate of "Harold H. Horton" affixed to the blank recto of the leaf preceding the half title in each volume. The identity of Horton is unknown to us, but we can speculate that he was well-regarded by senior staff at Kingsport Press; we have also encountered a specially bound presentation set of Churchill's *The Second World War* (also printed by Kingsport) gifted to Mr. Horton in 1954 by Kingsport Press Vice President "Mr. C. Wilhelm". (See Item #43 at p.120.) That set was one of just seven, the others distributed to Churchill himself (2 sets), the Presidents of Houghton Mifflin and the Book-of-the-Month Club, the Rutgers University Library, and Mr. Wilhelm.

53

Frontiers and Wars

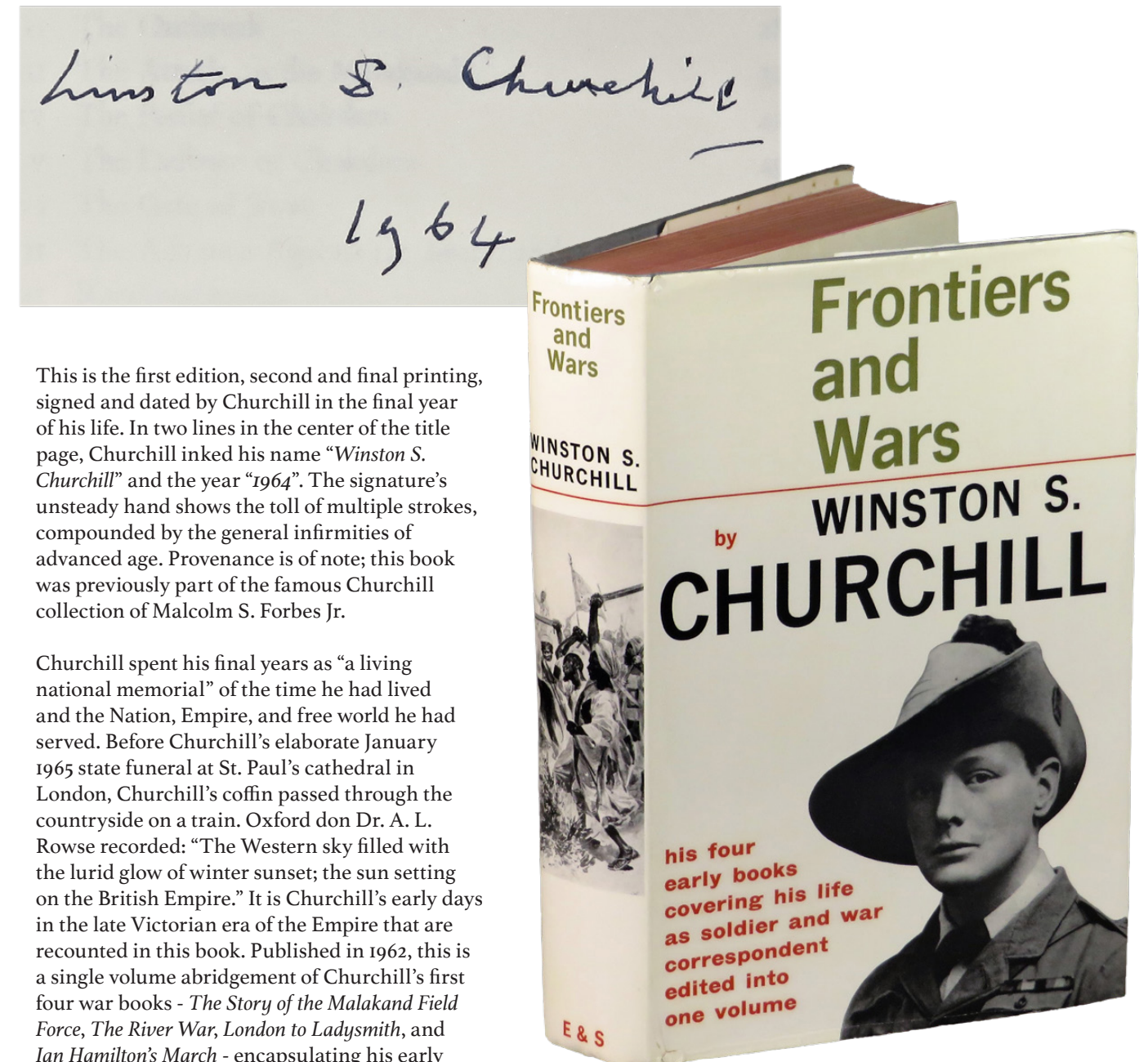
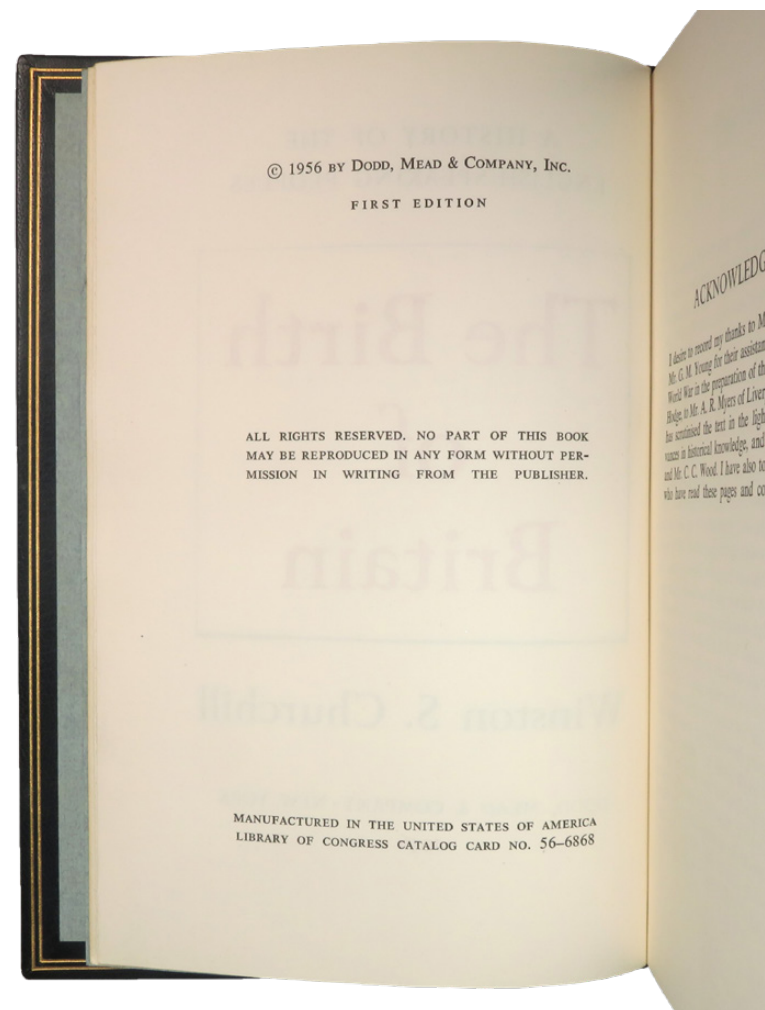
Signed and dated by Churchill in the final year of his life
Eyre & Spottiswoode, London, 1962



Established in 1922, for more than half a century Kingsport Press was a powerful Tennessee-based presence in the publishing world. Founded by bankers who had financed the Clinchfield Railway and the Kingsport town site, Kingsport Press became “an integral component in fulfilling the interlocking concept of industry upon which Kingsport’s founders created the planned industrial community” and “served as a catalyst for the development and expansion of related industries such as Mead Paper Company.” Printing major works by someone with Churchill’s global stature in the 1950s would have been not only a commercial coup, but also a matter of reputational prestige – which may help explain why the printer undertook this special binding.

Reference: Cohen A267.3, Woods/ICS A138(ab),
Langworth p.318 [CBC #007321]

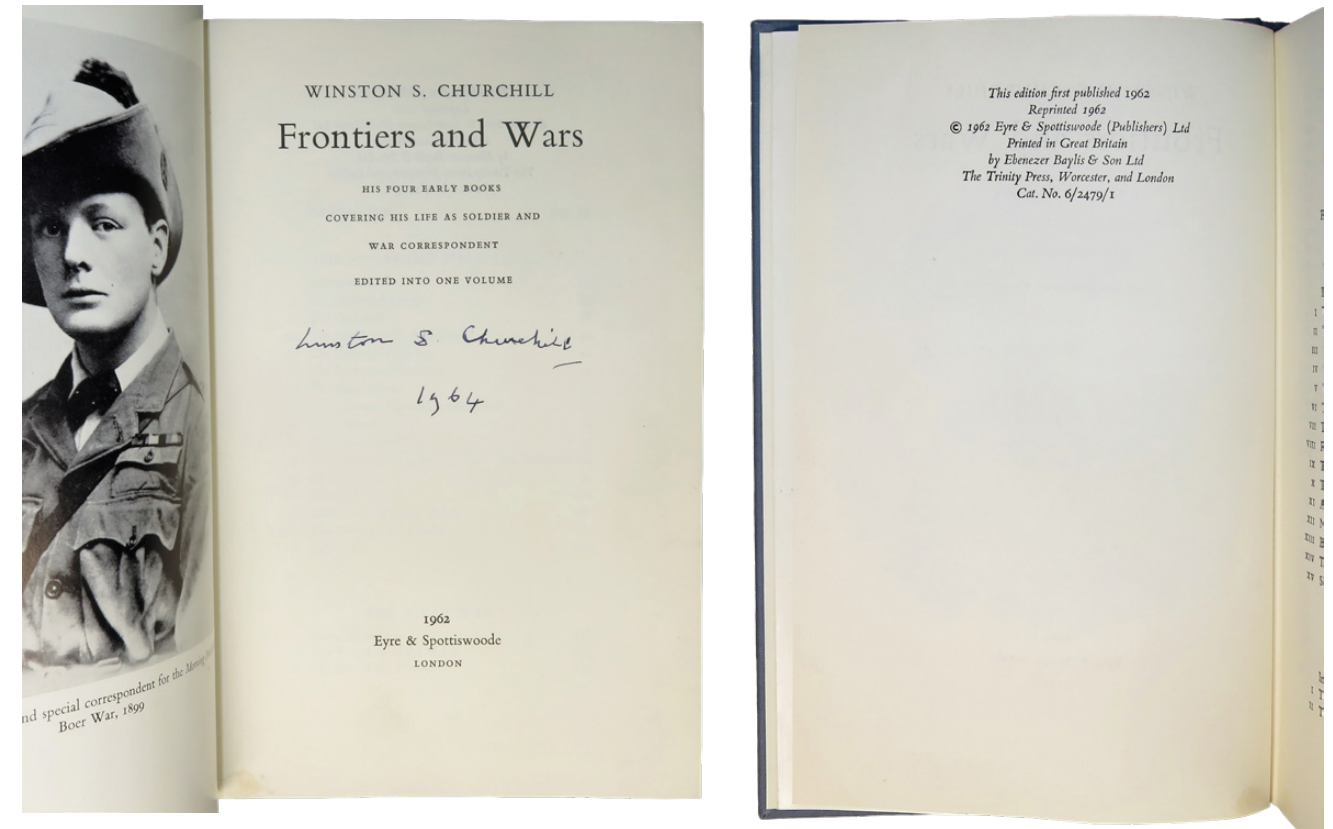
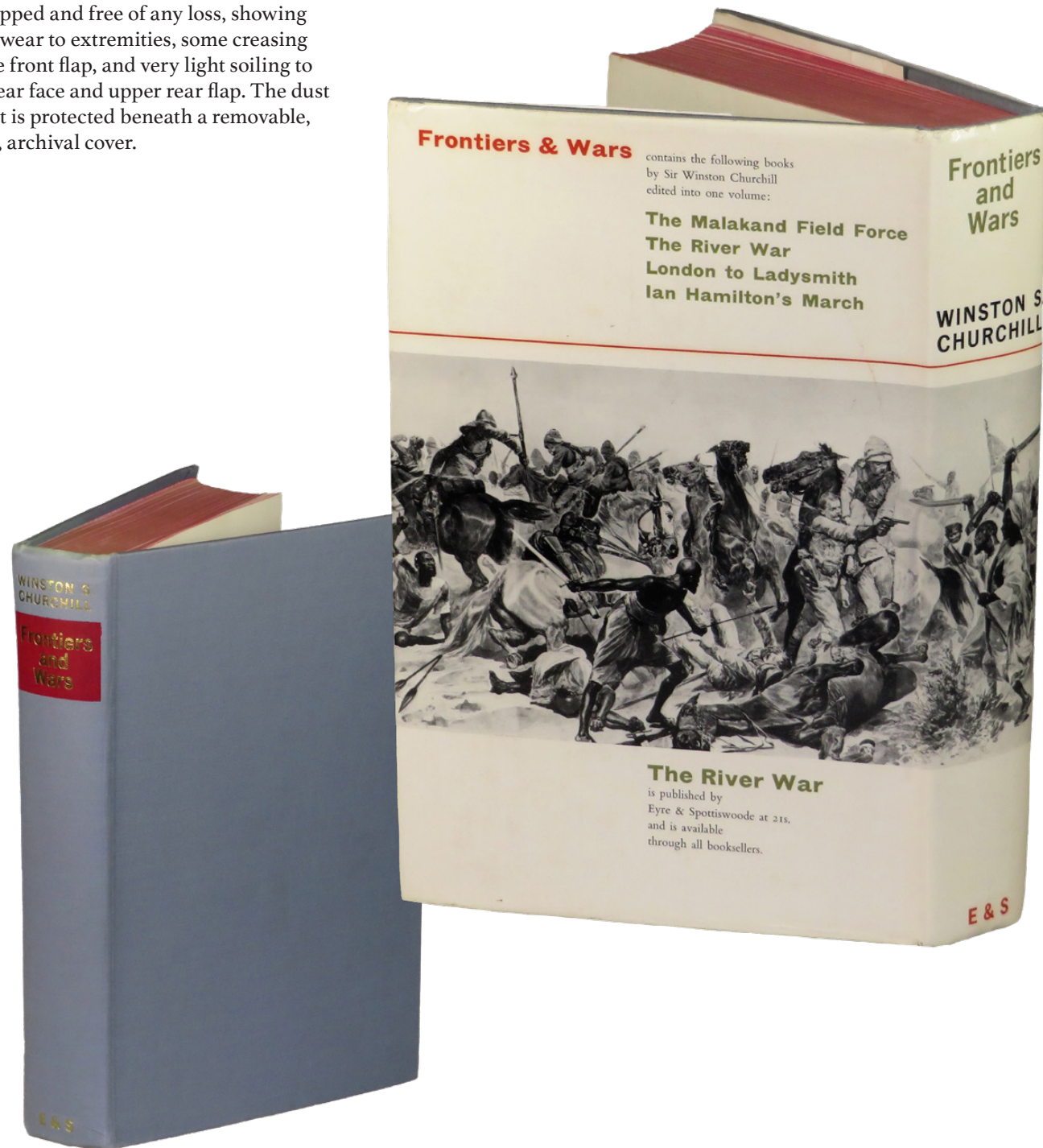
\$4,500 USD



This is the first edition, second and final printing, signed and dated by Churchill in the final year of his life. In two lines in the center of the title page, Churchill inked his name “Winston S. Churchill” and the year “1964”. The signature’s unsteady hand shows the toll of multiple strokes, compounded by the general infirmities of advanced age. Provenance is of note; this book was previously part of the famous Churchill collection of Malcolm S. Forbes Jr.

Churchill spent his final years as “a living national memorial” of the time he had lived and the Nation, Empire, and free world he had served. Before Churchill’s elaborate January 1965 state funeral at St. Paul’s cathedral in London, Churchill’s coffin passed through the countryside on a train. Oxford don Dr. A. L. Rowse recorded: “The Western sky filled with the lurid glow of winter sunset; the sun setting on the British Empire.” It is Churchill’s early days in the late Victorian era of the Empire that are recounted in this book. Published in 1962, this is a single volume abridgement of Churchill’s first four war books - *The Story of the Malakand Field Force*, *The River War*, *London to Ladysmith*, and *Ian Hamilton’s March* - encapsulating his early career as soldier and war correspondent before he was first elected to Parliament in October 1900. It made fitting content for one of the last books featuring content by Churchill published during his long life. Moreover, the book was a handsome production. A large hardcover, it measures 9.5 x 6.25 inches (24.13 x 15.88 cm), 568 pages in length and illustrated with photos and maps.

Unfortunately, this handsome edition proved fragile, with the gray-blue binding easily sunned and the lovely illustrated white dust jacket quite prone to soiling and tears. This signed and dated copy is very good plus in a very good dust jacket. This second and final printing was issued in the same year as the first and is virtually identical, differing only in notation of the reprint on the title page verso and the addition of a red and gold headband. The cloth binding is square, clean, tight, and unfaded with sharp corners. We note only some wrinkling to the spine ends and trivial shelf wear to the bottom edges. The contents remain quite clean with no spotting or previous ownership marks. The red-stained top edge retains bright, uniform color only lightly sunned. The strikingly illustrated dust jacket is complete, unclipped and free of any loss, showing light wear to extremities, some creasing of the front flap, and very light soiling to the rear face and upper rear flap. The dust jacket is protected beneath a removable, clear, archival cover.



Of Churchill's first four books, the publisher states, "they have now been edited into this single volume, and while they have necessarily been abridged, they show in full measure the splendid march of the narratives and the force of the author's style." The title of the work is derived from Churchill's compelling narrative in the first chapter of *The Story of the Malakand Field Force*: "The tale that I have to tell is one of frontier war..." Who performed the abridgment is not known. Though the book was published in Churchill's lifetime, it contains no new material, and Churchill was not involved in the preparation. Nonetheless, Richard Langworth rightly calls this book "the ideal introduction to Churchill the Victorian war historian." Langworth's appraisal accords with that of the publisher: "Throughout this volume there is that combination of sharp, personally observed detail with broad historical scope which is the author's hallmark. Reading it one feels with vivid clarity what it was like to be young and adventurous in those days. It is the portrait of a vanished age, as well as an account of some of Sir Winston Churchill's most exciting years told with his own incomparable vigour and zest."

Reference: Cohen A274.I.C, Woods/ICS A142/1(a.2), Langworth p.340. [CBC #006013]

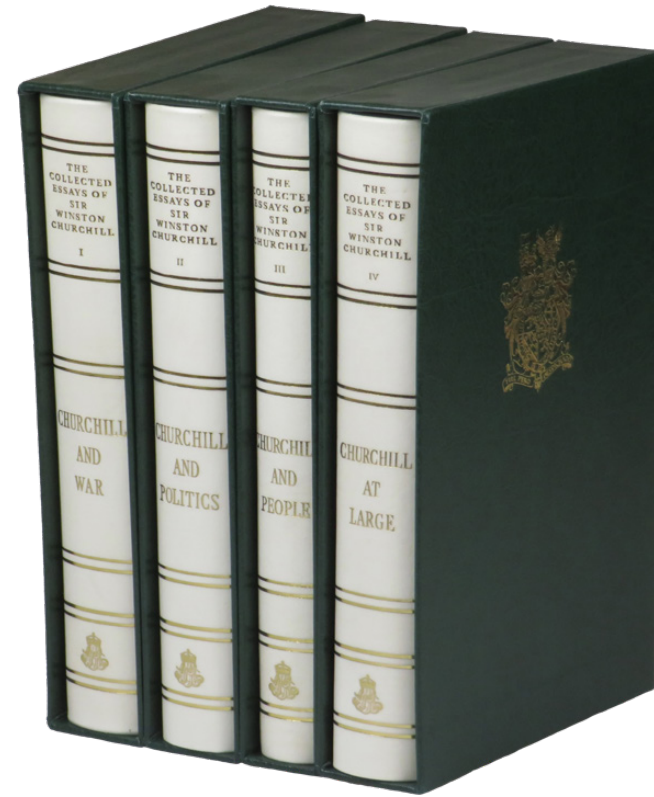
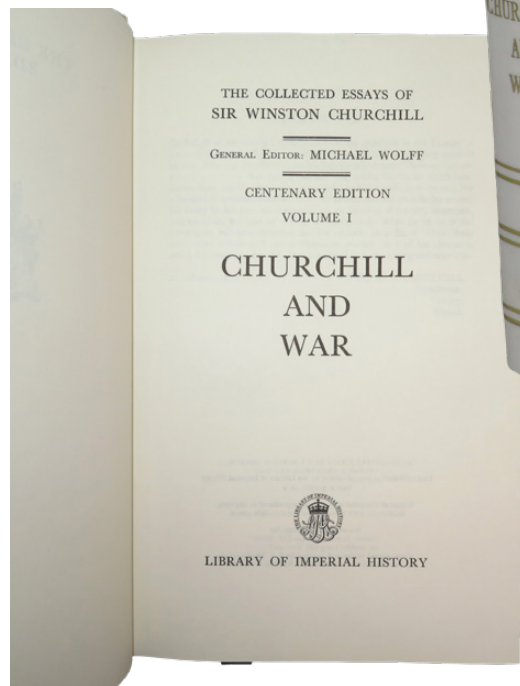
\$6,500 USD

54

The Collected Essays of Sir Winston Churchill Library of Imperial History, London, 1976

This is a magnificently immaculate full set of Churchill's Collected Essays in the vellum bindings and slipcases - the best set we have ever encountered. In 1976, the Library of Imperial History issued *The Collected Essays of Sir Winston Churchill* as a welcome follow-up to *The Collected Works*, which included only book-length publications. Both the content and aesthetics of this four-volume set are compelling. The set compiles most of Churchill's major forewords and periodical contributions, some of which can be otherwise found only in the original periodical publications. The essays are sorted by subject and each of the volumes has a theme - *Churchill and War*, *Churchill and Politics*, *Churchill and People*, and *Churchill at Large*.

In addition to being bibliographically important, *The Collected Essays* are aesthetically appealing. The production quality is impressive. There were two publisher binding options for *The Collected Essays* - both sumptuous and one positively extravagant. The lesser of the two was bound in quarter blue Morocco and is lovely, but does not match the other 34 volumes of *The Collected Works*. The more elaborate binding option was full natural calfskin vellum with individual green slipcases, matching the 34 volumes of the preceding Centenary Edition of Churchill's book-length works. The bindings feature Churchill's coat of arms stamped in gilt. The text is printed on special 500-year archival paper and decorated with marbled endpapers, all edges gilt, head and foot bands, and silk ribbon markers. Each volume is protected in a dark green leather slipcase with the Churchill coat of arms stamped in gilt on the front cover.

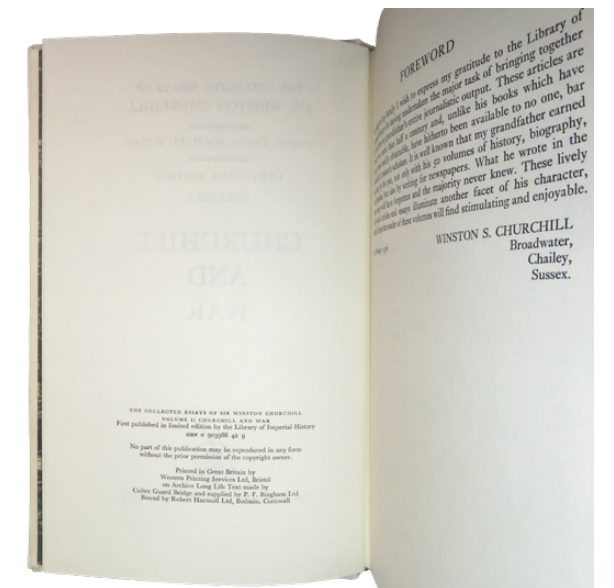


Either binding of *The Collected Essays* is scarce, but this more elaborate binding is rarely seen alone, as it is essential to completing a uniform full set of *The Collected Works*. The vellum bindings were meant to tone and age naturally, but often tone to yellow and brown both considerably and unevenly. We have never offered a set this compellingly bright and clean. This set is one of three acquired by us some years ago from a venerable London bookseller, who acquired the sets new from the publisher and stored them in a cupboard until they were made available to us. This is the last – and best – set we have of those three.

The bindings are pristine, showing no discernible signs of handling, perfectly square and tight with sharp corners and no visible wear. Shelf presentation is superlative, the spines improbably bright and clean. The contents are likewise immaculate, crisp and bright, with satin ribbon markers still in the original position placed by the publisher. We find no previous ownership marks. The gilt page edges are vividly bright with no discernible flaws noted. The books are clearly unread; we are likely the first to have ever removed them from the slipcases. In short, the set appears flawless. The publisher's green leather slipcases are likewise virtually flawless. An exceptional example of an important work, with both compelling contents and striking shelf presence.

Reference: Cohen A286, Woods/ICS A146(b), Langworth p.355. [CBC #007251]

\$3,500 USD



55

The Dream

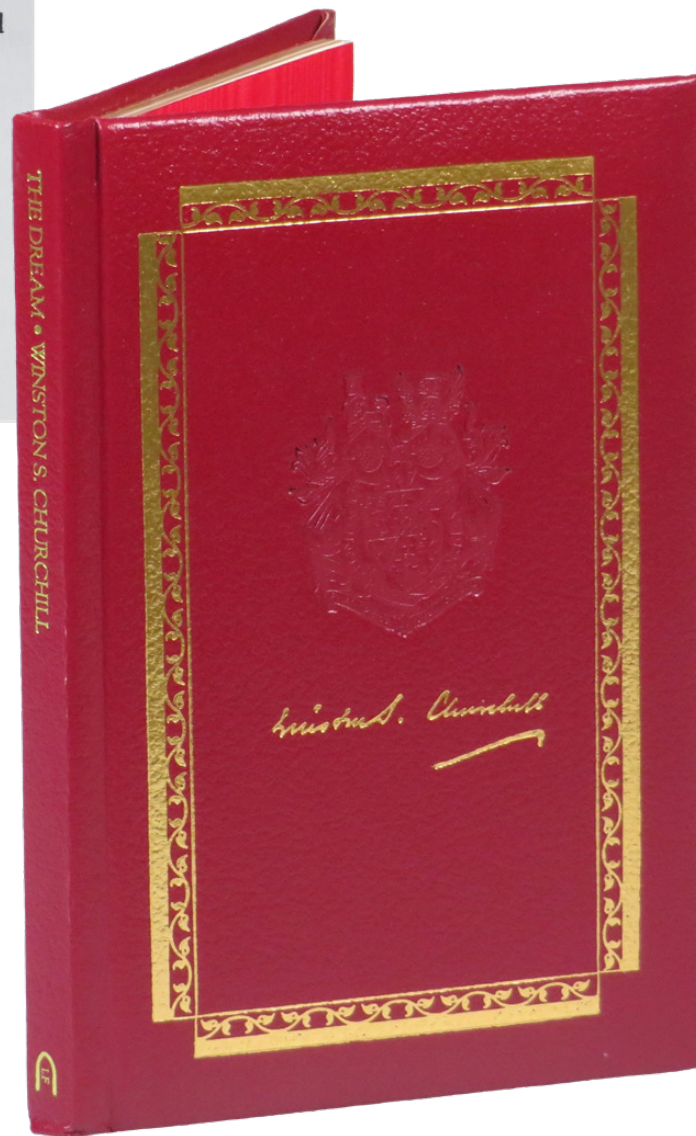
Copy #178 of 500

Churchill Literary Foundation, Contoocook, New Hampshire, 1987

This book
has been printed
for contributors to
the Churchill Literary Foundation
and members of the International Churchill
Society on Mohawk Superfine 300-Year Archival
paper. The type is fourteen point Fairfield. It was
designed by Dragonwyck Publishing Inc. and illustrated
by Sal Asaro. French Marbled endpapers were used for
the first 20 copies and cloth moire endpapers
for the remainder. It has been printed
by Hazen Printing Co. and bound by
the New Hampshire Bindery
in an edition of 500
copies, of which
this is copy
Number

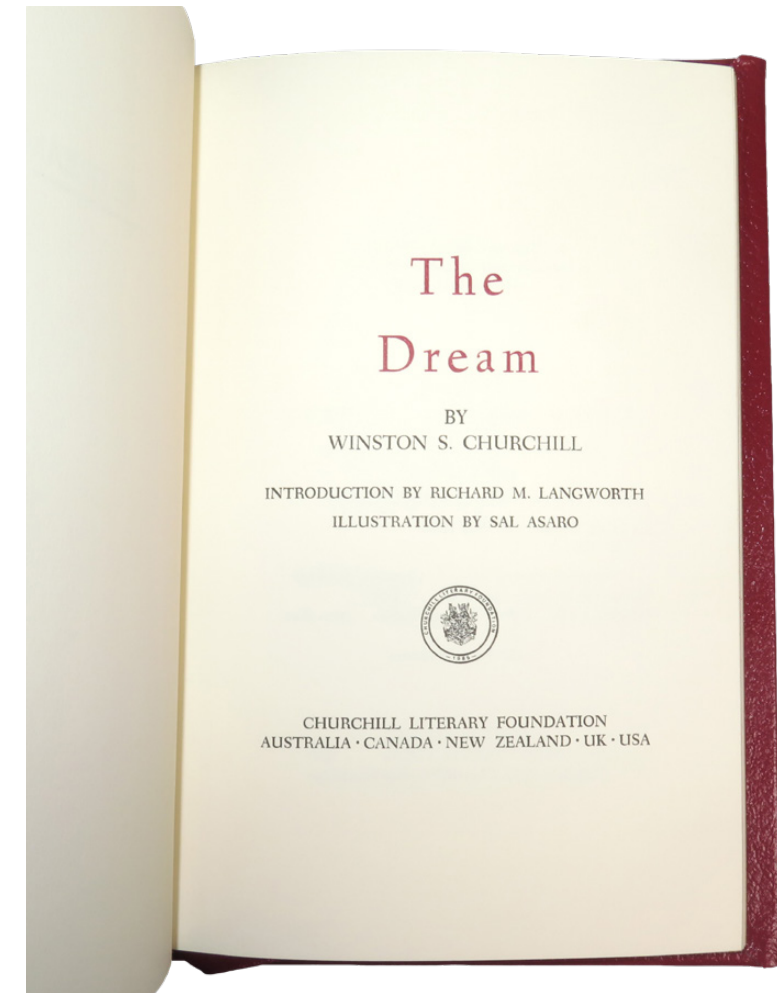
178

This is a pristine copy of the first book publication, the finely bound limited first edition, Number 178 of 500 hand-numbered copies. *The Dream* is Churchill's revealing essay about a ghostly reunion with his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, in which Winston recounts the world events that have transpired since his father's death - without revealing his own role in them.



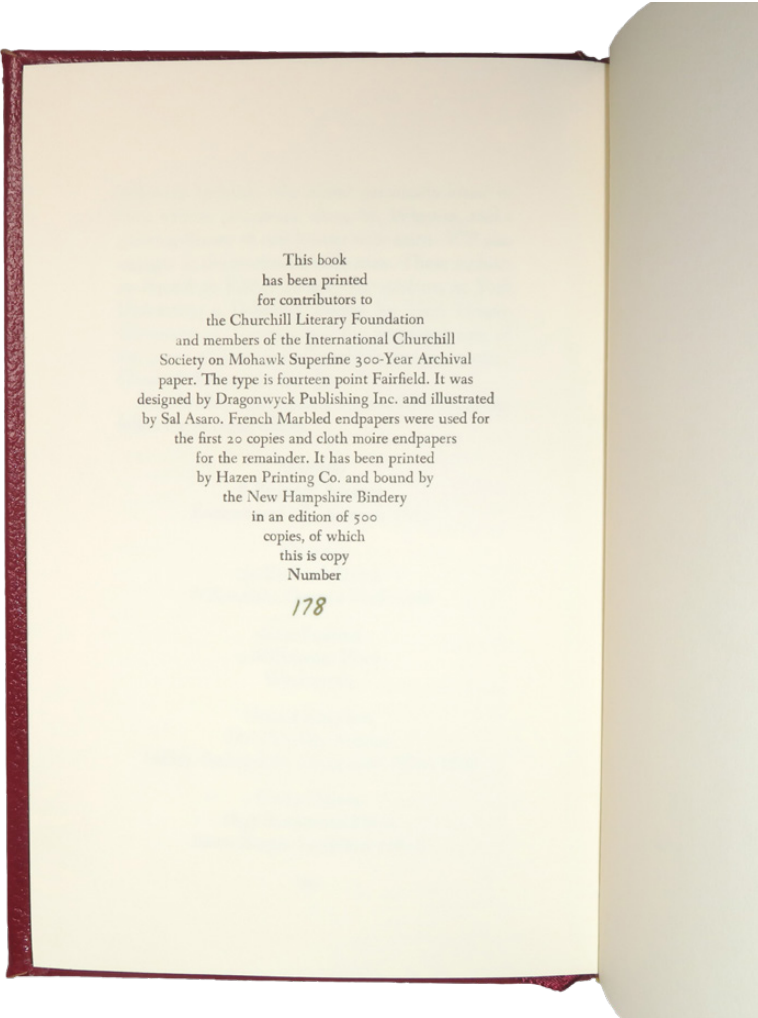
Winston Churchill's father, Lord Randolph, died in January 1895, at age 45, following the spectacular collapse of both his health and political career. His son Winston was 20 years old. A few years later, Churchill sought permission to write his father's biography and then spent two and a half years researching and writing - a major literary effort, but apparently an emotional one as well. Of the work, Churchill wrote to Lord Rosebery on 11 September 1902: "It is all most interesting to me - and melancholy too" (R. Churchill, WSC, Companion Volume II, Part 1, p.438). Of course history and longevity would dramatically favor the son, but when Randolph died, Winston dwelt very much in his father's shadow, both emotionally and in terms of the political career to which he already aspired.

Extraordinary First Editions by Churchill



It is in this small, intimate piece of writing that we catch Churchill with that shadow on the eve of his 73rd birthday. According to Churchill, a "foggy afternoon in November 1947" found him in his "studio at the cottage down the hill at Chartwell" attempting to paint a copy of a damaged portrait of Lord Randolph when he turned around to find his father sitting in a red leather armchair, looking just as Churchill "had seen him in his prime." What ensued was a conversation about what had - and had not - changed since Randolph's time, ranging from trivialities and individual personalities to politics and the broad sweep of world affairs. Churchill, of course, never reveals his role in much of this history. Churchill's summary observations and appraisals to his father make a worthwhile study in themselves. But these are perhaps overshadowed by the emotional overtones, which psychologists and sentimentalists will doubtless continue to parse for years to come.

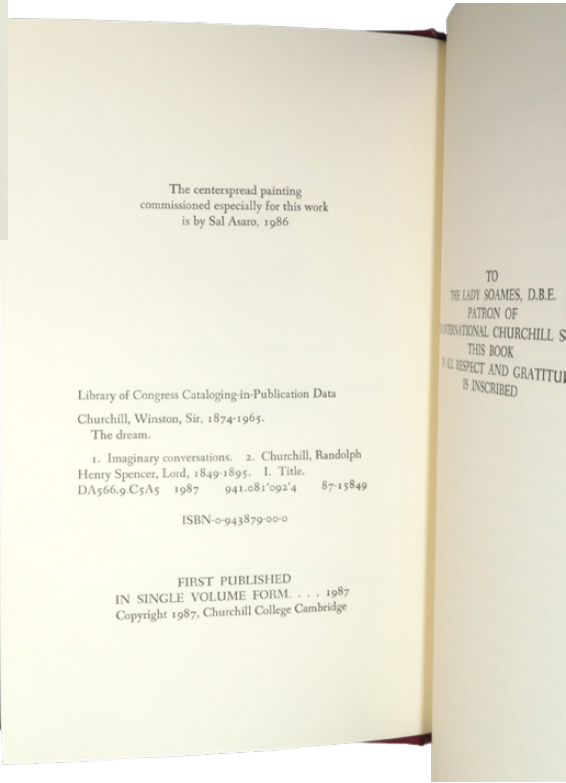
His family called it "The Dream." Churchill titled it simply "Private Article." Though he was seldom stinting with his words or their publication, Churchill locked this essay in a box where it remained, willed to his wife. Churchill died on 24 January 1965 - the same day his father died seventy years before. *The Dream* was first published a year after Churchill's death, on 30 January 1966, in the *Sunday Telegraph* and was subsequently included in *The Collected Essays of Sir Winston Churchill* (1976). However, *The Dream* was not published in book form until September 1987, four decades after it was written and more than 22 years after Churchill's death. Fortunately, the edition rose to the occasion of the long wait. Richard Langworth of the International Churchill Society presided over a lovely limited edition of 500 hand-numbered copies. This was an elaborate production, printed on acid-free archival paper and bound in padded red leather with gilt decoration and the Churchill arms blind-stamped on the front cover. All page edges are gilt, with head and foot bands, as well as a satin page marker and silk endpapers. Langworth contributed a worthy Foreword and Sal Asaro a color illustration from an oil painting commissioned by the publishers.



This copy, hand-numbered 178 of 500, is in fine, virtually as-new condition. This edition's binding proved prone to hinge cracks, either starting or well along on most copies we encounter. This copy is an exception. The binding is square, tight, bright, and clean, with only a barely discernible, miniscule hint of imperfection at a few points the central front hinge. The contents are immaculate, clearly unread.

Reference: Cohen A288.1, Woods/ICS A147, Langworth p.357 [CBC #007250]

\$600 USD



Thoughts on “the gentlest of infirmities”

Recently, I went to a record store with my teenage daughter, where she showed shiny-eyed reverence for old vinyl records – objects that I would have been unable to unload at a garage sale just a few decades ago. I pointed out that she has a subscription to multiple music platforms, each with enormous, on-demand song catalogues that stream with high fidelity through the device of her choice. I pointed out the aesthetic and practical inefficiencies of spinning a frisbee under a needle as a means to consume music, not to mention the silliness of filling shelves with heavy, fragile vinyl discs. Then, I remembered how many bookshelves we have in our house. And, yes, I bought her some vinyl records.

Let’s acknowledge that there is much about book collecting that makes no sense. Author Nicholas Basbanes wrote a lovely book about the afflicted, aptly titled *A Gentle Madness*. That title derived from an affectionate description of Isaiah Thomas, the Revolutionary War-era printer, publisher, and author who founded (and contributed his entire, considerable personal library to) the American Antiquarian Society – a still-extant repository for printed records of the United States. Isaiah Thomas was eulogized by his grandson as “touched early by the gentlest of infirmities, bibliomania.”

What was “mania” then is certainly no less now, in our age of almost instantaneously available and nearly infinitely portable information. Sorry Alexandria - one can now carry a literal library on a phone. So why fill shelves with books?

Books are a tenuous combination of perishable materials and discordant chemistry – various types of ink and paper, glue and string and cloth, materials that may be animal, vegetable, synthetic, or all three. The constituent elements of books court entropy and conspire to decohere almost from the moment they are bound together. For the vast majority of books, their purpose is fulfilled in being read and wrecked.

But a very few live a different life. Collectible books transmogrify, becoming something precious, a lingering signal amid the static, objects with a greater purpose than their consumption. And, often, the longer they endure, the better they are regarded.

Here’s something even less sensible. This is catalogue full of expensive, collectible books. You may pay lots of money for the precious objects herein. But you shouldn’t own them.

That’s right. This bookseller is telling you that you shouldn’t own what you buy.

OK – a clarification so we don’t hear from an attorney... We *encourage* you not to *regard* your collectible books as if you own them. We *respectfully suggest* that your job as a discerning collector is to make sure your collection outlives you and your custody thereof. Relish, of course. Covet, obsess, and even, if you must, brag a little. But foremost, serve as a diligent and conscientious custodian. Take care to preserve what is in your custody. And make sensible provisions to ensure that your charges find a successor custodian with commitment and sensibility equal to your own. Your job is to ensure that what comes into your possession eventually passes from your hands to the next with as much defiance of age and injury as possible.

Why? This is a reasonable question to ask given the assertions above.

Many answers occur. Just to keep things interesting, here’s an answer from a book about... falconry:

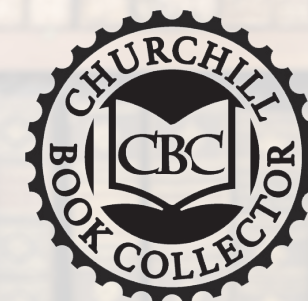
“I once asked my friends if they ever held things that gave them a spooky sense of history. Ancient pots with 3,000 year old thumbprints in the clay said one. Antique keys, another. Clay pipes. Dancing shoes from World War II. Roman coins I found in a field. Old bus tickets in second hand books. Everyone agreed that what these small things did was strangely intimate. They gave them the sense as they picked them up and turned them in their fingers of another person, an unknown person a long time ago, who had held that object in their hands. “You don’t know anything about them, but you feel the other person’s there” one friend told me. “It’s like all the years between you and them disappear. Like you become them somehow.” History collapses...”
(from *H is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald)

Nested within a greater dialogue of what it means to heed and hold a hawk is this rather lovely explanation of why one might wish to have and hold a book. Ms. Macdonald’s passage is an explanation of what a mere *thing* can convey. In certain books there is a sense of connection embodied in the physical object that exists simultaneous with, yet apart from, the words therein. For some of us, a book can be a small miracle of ephemeral, sentient alignment that we are compelled to conserve. Stewardship of these items is not mere collecting, but an act of safeguarding fragments of our collective, evolving humanity.

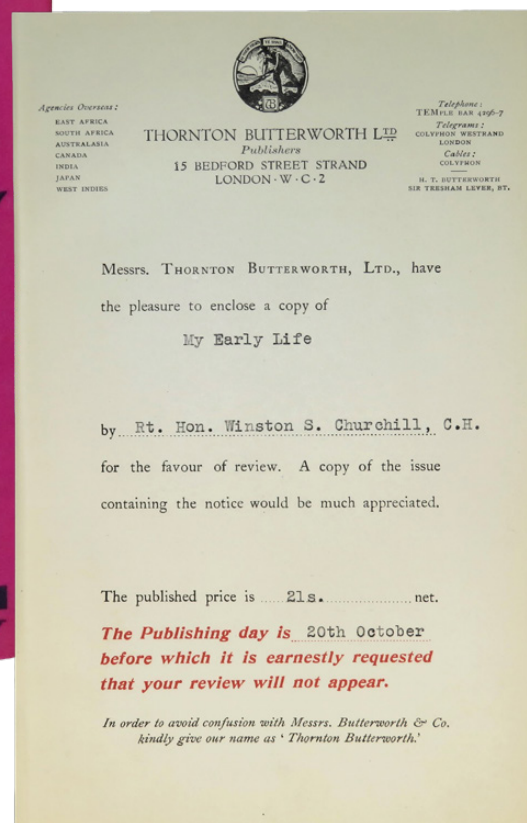
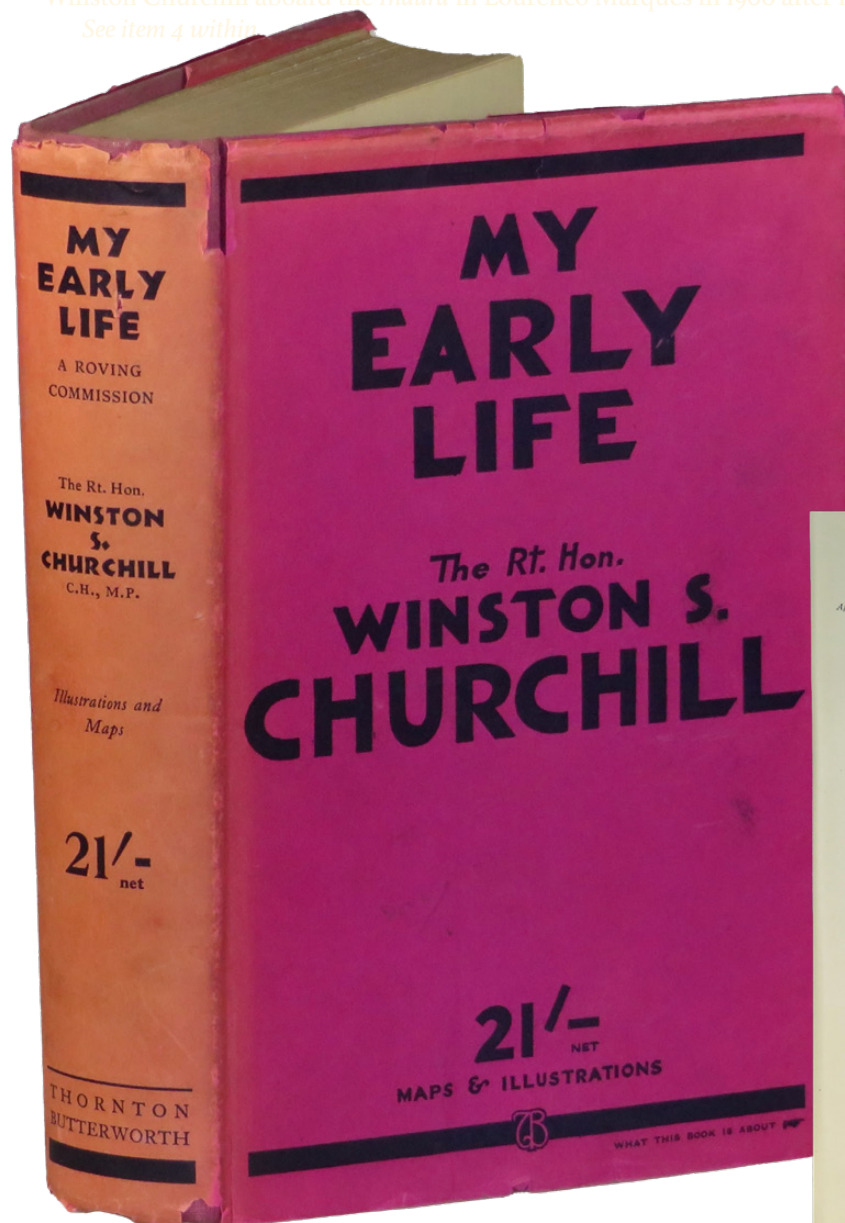
Yes, there is a market for rare books. And that market is just as ancient, enduring, and capriciously evolving as the learnings, loves, and lusts that drive us to possess books. But there is also something beyond mere collecting and commerce.

Among and between the pages and stacks and libraries and those who tend them, there is a conversation – a ranging, intermittent, and only vaguely coherent, but nonetheless constant conversation about the conceptions and expressions of who we are and who we hope to be as a species. As the books and ideas therein age and stratify, so too does the conversation. It becomes a susurrations, a sort of quiet cultural undercurrent, consistently masked by the prevailing daily tides and wind and weather. But that doesn’t mean the conversational current is either irrelevant or unnecessary. Want of it, one feels, would still the great ocean of our experience, losing it by failing to gently stir its depths while the majority of our energy is always focused on disturbing the surface.

May you be afflicted with “the gentlest of infirmities” and an abundance of shelves.



Winston Churchill aboard the *Indura* in Lourenco Marques in 1900 after his escape during the Boer War
See item 4 within



*A remarkable, likely singular prize – a publisher's review copy
of the first edition, first printing, first state, first binding state
in the extravagantly rare dust jacket*

CHURCHILL
BOOK COLLECTOR

www.churchillbookcollector.com