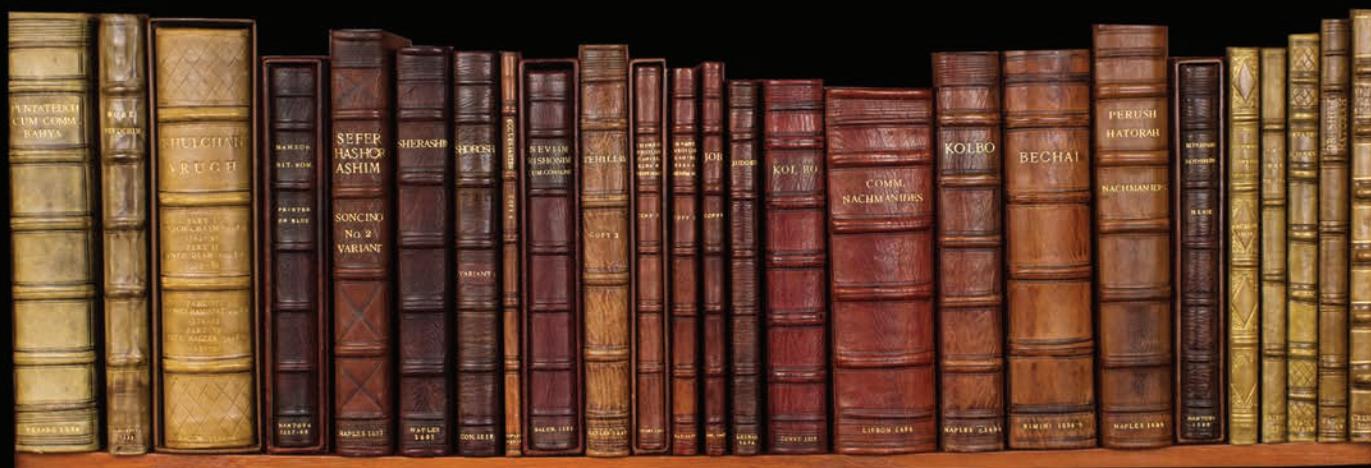
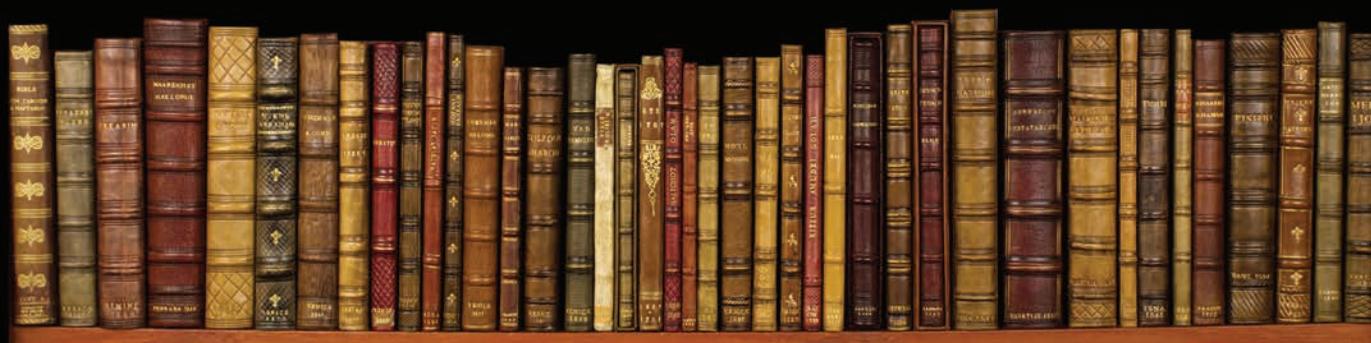
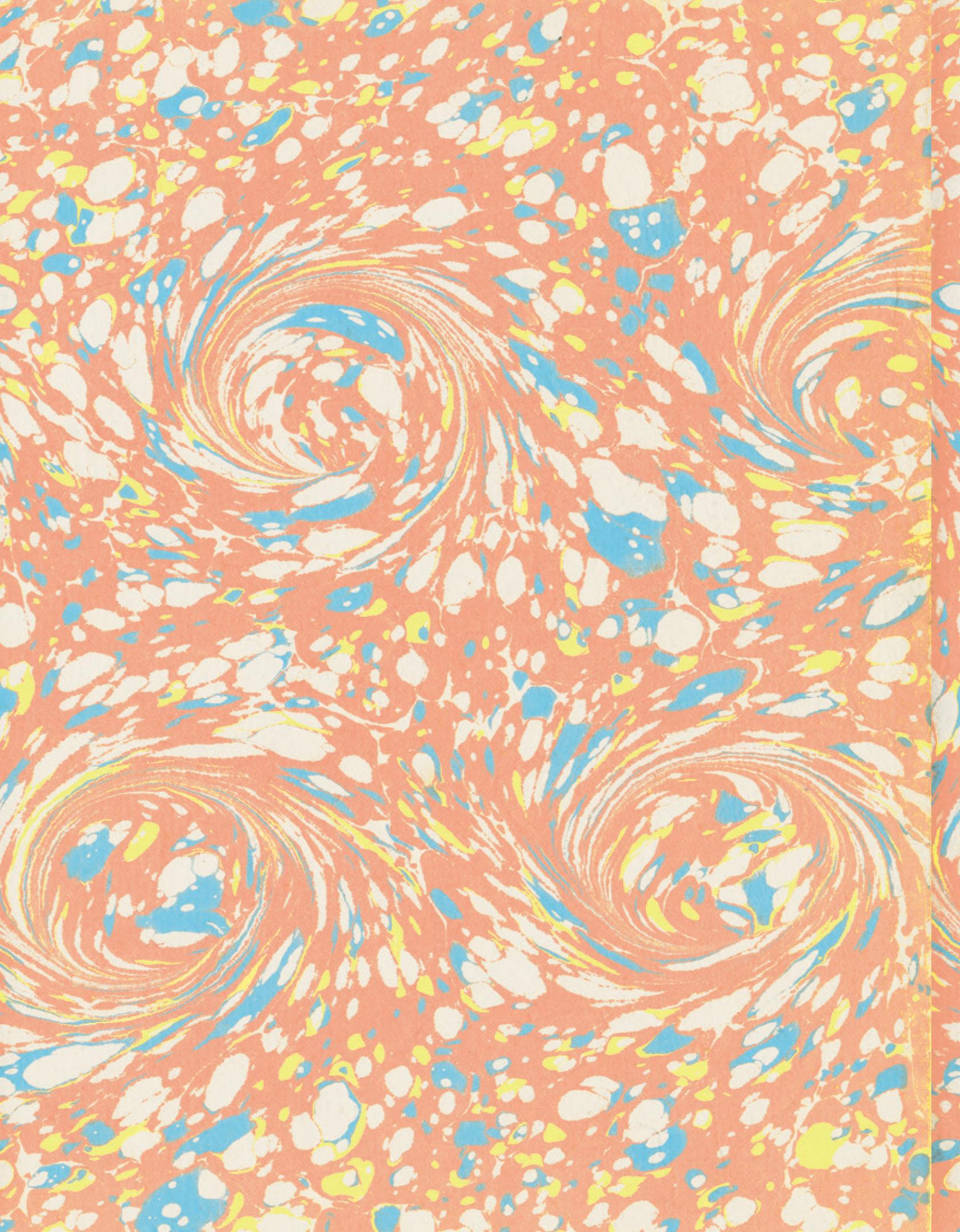


THE VALMADONNA TRUST LIBRARY

HIGHLY IMPORTANT HEBREW PRINTED BOOKS:
SELECTIONS FROM THE HISTORIC COLLECTION



KESTENBAUM & COMPANY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH 2017





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Auctioneers of Rare Books, Manuscripts and Fine Art



*The Custodian of the Valmadonna Trust, the late Jack V. Lunzer, amidst the splendor of his library. New York, 2009.
Photo © Rob Bennett/The New York Times/Redux*

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HIGHLY IMPORTANT HEBREW PRINTED BOOKS:
SELECTIONS FROM THE HISTORIC COLLECTION

To be Offered for Sale by Auction,
Thursday, 9th November, 2017
at 3:00 pm precisely

242 West 30th Street, 12th Floor
(Between Seventh & Eighth Avenues)
New York, NY 10001

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Monday, 6th November - 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Tuesday, 7th November - 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Wednesday, 8th November - 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
No Viewing on the Day of Sale

*This Sale may be referred to as: "Fairport" Sale Number Seventy-Four
Illustrated Catalogues: \$40 (US) * \$50 (Overseas)*

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Select Categories Within the Auction:

Americana: Lots 11, 12

Books Printed on Vellum: Lots 34, 59, 86-9, 141, 161, 171

Books Printed on Blue and other Colored Papers: Lots 1, 19, 22,
64, 71, 78, 105, 145, 148, 149, 163, 164, 170, 173, 189, 196

Iberian Books: Lots 48, 52, 55, 92-7, 148

Incunabula: Lots 25, 29-33, 98, 104, 112, 122, 123, 131, 142,
168, 169, 172

The Valmadonna Reference Library: Lot 209

Indices (Hebrew & Geographic)

Front Cover Illustration: A Selection of Bindings

Back Cover Illustration: Lot 80

List of prices realized will be posted on our website following the sale
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— FOREWORD —

Kestenbaum & Company is honored to present this historic auction:
Important Hebrew Printed Books from the Library of the Valmadonna Trust.

Broadly characterized as the finest private collection of Hebrew Printed Books ever assembled, the Valmadonna Trust Library, comprising some 13,000 volumes, was built over more than half a century of prodigious pursuit by its custodian and visionary, the late Mr. Jack V. Lunzer.

In early 2017 the London based Valmadonna Trust Library was acquired by the National Library of Israel where it will be housed in a new landmark building in Jerusalem. Some two hundred volumes, from the earliest Hebrew printed books to later extraordinary rarities and unique copies, were extracted from the Collection and are to be offered in the present auction. This will allow private collectors and institutional libraries from across the globe a unique opportunity to acquire extraordinary bibliophilic treasures from this celebrated Collection.

Aside from the great rarity of so many of the lots on offer here, also important to note is the extraordinary effort that was undertaken by the Custodian of the Valmadonna Trust in seeking to preserve each and every volume acquired. Expert restoration went into numerous books, after which they were beautifully rebound in the antique style by artisans from England's top binderies, so that each volume now has the most sumptuous appearance.

In addition to a wealth of 15th-18th century volumes, the entire reference library of the Valmadonna Trust will be offered for sale here as a single unit - an extraordinary opportunity for a far-sighted research institution.

Many of the books in this catalogue have been described assisted by the erudite publication edited by David Sclar: *Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov* (London & New York, 2011) assembled by a team of first-rate scholars including Shimon Iakerson, Ari Kinsberg, Sharon Liberman Mintz, Pauline Malkiel, Adri K. Offenber, Brad Sabin Hill, Jerry Schwarzbard, David Wachtel and Isaac Yudlov.

Similarly, due acknowledgment is to be placed with the learned bookman par excellence, Brad Sabin Hill, for his masterful catalogue: *Hebraica (Saec. X ad Saec. XVI) Manuscripts and Early Printed Books from the Library of the Valmadonna Trust. An Exhibition at the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York* (Oxford University Press, 1989).

Kestenbaum is particularly grateful to Brad Sabin Hill for providing the detailed introduction especially composed for the present auction-catalogue - a testament to his decades-long relationship with the Valmadonna Trust Library.

In keeping with the munificent nature of the discerning collector who seeks to unite connoisseurship, intellectual enrichment and trusteeship for future generations, this auction is a unique opportunity to acquire the very finest texts, many of them in a physical condition that is quite unparalleled.

DEK
Fall, 2017

— SELECT TREASURES OF THE — VALMADONNA TRUST LIBRARY

J. V. Lunzer (1924-2016) was one of the greatest Hebrew book collectors of the twentieth century. In England, where Jewish bibliophiles seemed to sprout like mushrooms, he was the fourth in a pantheon of book men – after Moses Gaster, E. N. Adler and D. S. Sassoon - whose collections in whole or in part came to adorn institutional libraries on both sides of the Atlantic and in Israel. The Valmadonna Trust Library, of which Lunzer was Custodian, was unquestionably the greatest private collection of early and rare Hebrew books in the world.

Valmadonna (Lunzer called the library “Val”) encompassed the earliest Hebrew books from the European and Balkan centres of Hebrew printing of the 15th to 18th centuries, in particular Venice, Constantinople, Prague, Salonika, Basle, Amsterdam, and Livorno. Most impressive among the library’s contents were the incunabula (books printed before 1500), books printed on vellum, coloured or other special papers, and many unicas, that is, books of which no other copy, or complete copy, is extant. The library was also extraordinarily rich in Spanish and Portuguese Judaica of the 17th and 18th centuries. Anyone who had occasion to visit the library, or see exhibits of it in London or New York, could not but be awed by its chronological range, geographic extent, and cultural depth.

Lunzer was expert in Hebrew printing history. I remember thinking when I first met him 35 years ago that if one didn’t know he was a diamond merchant it would be impossible to imagine he was anything other than the most learned curator of Hebrew books. Obsessive, single-minded and meticulous, he acquired books from every place of printing and every printer. Not only was the totality of Jewish book production represented in the collection, but in unique or nearly unique, flawless, deluxe, variant, excessively rare or altogether unrecorded copies, all elegantly bound or restored. His expertise and passion were apparent in putting together the collection, from which a choice selection is described in this catalogue.

Over 40 places of Hebrew printing are featured here, in books from historic presses across the European continent and beyond. There are exempla from the humanist master-printers and publishers of the 16th century, Bomberg, Di Gara, Giustinian, Bragadin, Froben, Plantin, and other houses which produced Hebrew books in the early centuries of the press. Of the famous Jewish printers from the incunable period through the 17th century are names which resonate of momentous events in Jewish history - of expulsions, book burnings, persecutions and migrations on the one hand, and ennobling moments of technical achievement and intellectual creativity on the other: Eliezer Toledano in Lisbon, generations of Soncinos in Italy and the East, Ibn Nahmias in Constantinople, the Company of Silk Weavers in Bologna, Usque in Ferrara, Dona Reyna in the Belvedere palace near Orta Köy, Manasseh Ben Israel in Amsterdam, and Israel Bak in Jerusalem.

INCUNABULA. Valmadonna held more Hebrew books made before 1500, just after Gutenberg’s invention of typography, than most national libraries in Europe and North America. The 16 titles described in this auction catalogue comprise one of the largest groups of Hebrew incunabula ever offered at auction. The earliest is Bedersi’s Behinat ‘Olam printed in Soncino in northern Italy in 1484 (Lot 25). Also from Soncino is Sefer Mitsvot Gadol by Moses of Coucy (172), printed in 1488, the very year the first edition of the Hebrew Bible came off this press (with the colophon “From Zion shall go forth the Law, and the word of the Lord from Soncino”). The Mazhor (festival liturgy) begun in Soncino in 1485 and completed in nearby Casalmaggiore the next year was the very first printed Jewish prayer book (142). The poetical Mahbarot of Immanuel of Rome, issued by Soncino in Brescia in 1491, is one of only two secular Hebrew books printed before 1500; it shows signs of the Zodiac and is considered one of the first two illustrated Hebrew books, which were both printed in this town that same year (105).

There are no fewer than seven books from Naples, produced between 1487 and 1491. Several Jewish printers, including a Soncino, were active here before the press was closed by plague in 1492. Among these are biblical books with medieval commentaries, including Psalms with Kimhi (29), Job with Gersonides (30), Ecclesiastes (31), and the Five Scrolls with Rashi (32), as well as two editions of the Pentateuch with Nahmanides’ commentary (168-69). There are also two editions of Kimhi’s biblical dictionary, Shorashim (122-23). An eighth book, the anonymous legal code Kol Bo, is a bibliographic riddle (the paper’s watermark was the first in a Hebrew book to be studied); it may have been completed in Naples in 1492 (131).

There are two books from Portugal, where Jews introduced the art of typography. Nahmanides' commentary on the Pentateuch, from the press of Eliezer Toledano, was in 1489 the first book in any language printed in Lisbon (168). The biblical book of Judges (Shoftim) with Aramaic Targum and the commentaries of Kimhi and Gersonides, printed by d'Ortas in Leiria in 1494, came out shortly before the expulsion of the Jews from Portugal (33). (D'Ortas, a native of France, had previously printed the Latin astronomical tables used by Columbus.)

In a category of its own is the code of Jewish law, Jacob ben Asher's *Arba'ah Turim*, printed in Constantinople (Istanbul) in 1493, of which a fragment of two leaves is offered here. This was the first book in any language printed outside of Europe or in the Ottoman Empire, generations before books in Armenian, Greek, or Syriac appeared in the Levant. Indeed, it is the first book in any language ever printed in the entire Islamic world, over two centuries before the first Turkish work in Arabic type came off a press in Istanbul. As such it is one of the great monuments in the history of typography (112).

DELUXE PRINTING ON VELLUM. The present catalogue features the broadest selection of deluxe copies of Hebrew books – books printed on vellum, on blue or coloured paper, or on large or regal paper – ever offered in the history of Hebraica auctions. The early Hebrew printers issued special copies of their books on vellum, or parchment, the choice and most durable material for books since antiquity. Valmadonna's holdings of Hebrew printing on vellum outranked all other collections except those of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and the British Library.

Among the nine deluxe copies on vellum offered here are *Mishnah Pirke Avot* with the commentary of Maimonides and Sforzo (Bologna 1540), extracted from the Mahzor of the Roman rite (161); the Ashkenazic liturgy *Seder Tefilot* (Mantua 1558), with instructions in Yiddish (146); *Sefer ha-hashlamah*, Talmudic novellae on *Bava Kama* (Paris 1885), a unique copy on vellum prepared for Baron David Günzburg (59); Nahmanides' *Igeret ha-kodesh* on sexual morality (Amsterdam 1928), a last flourish of deluxe Hebrew printing in Amsterdam, and this not held in the British Library (171). One extraordinary lot (34) includes two copies of the excessively rare Salonika Pentateuch of 1520, one on vellum and one on paper. Zedner wrote of the vellum copy in the British Library: "Only one other copy known, which is on paper."

BLUE AND OTHER COLOURED PAPER. The employ of blue paper for special copies, which began with Bomberg in Renaissance Italy, has a longer history in Hebrew books than in any other printing tradition of East or West. In collecting these deluxe copies Lunzer was in the company of just one other bibliophile, David Oppenheim, Chief Rabbi of Prague, whose celebrated library was acquired in 1829 by Oxford. Valmadonna exceeded all other public and private libraries in the world in its 16th-century exempla, and held more from 18th-century Amsterdam, where the book arts reached their zenith, than any of the great public libraries of Europe and the Americas.

Of the 16 books printed on blue and other coloured papers offered here, ten are from the 16th century (more than at Oxford!), the earliest, printed by Bomberg in 1545, on blue paper (170), and the other, printed by Giustinian in 1546, on chocolate brown or pink, a tint of which only a few instances are known (22). Other 16th-century blue-paper books come from Cremona, Mantua and Sabbioneta (78, 104, 145). Three books on blue paper with wide margins can be considered double-deluxe: Nahmanides' commentary on the Pentateuch, printed in Venice in 1545 (170); Eleazar of Worms' *Sefer ha-rokeah* printed in Cremona in 1557 (71); and the *Mishnah Seder Kodshim* printed in Mantua in 1562 (163).

Of three blue-paper books from 18th-century Amsterdam (19, 64, 148), the first is from the press of Isaac de Cordoba, considered by Cecil Roth the first American Jewish printer. A sole example printed on blue-green paper in Prague in 1735 is one of very few books on coloured paper from this city, all the more exceptional as it comes from the library of Jonathan Eybeschuetz, then in Metz in France, and one can only speculate whether the greenish paper hints daringly at Sabbatianism (196).

LARGE OR WIDE-MARGINED PAPER. Another deluxe medium is regal, thick, large or wide-margined paper – the "charta magna" (normally white) to which Steinschneider drew attention in his Oxford catalogue. An astonishing 26 volumes on this special paper from the earliest days of printing up to the 18th century are offered here. Among them are four Neapolitan incunables (29-31, 123) and one printed in Soncino (172), before the departure of the eponymous family from this most famous Hebrew printing town of the 15th century. Especially attractive is the wide-margined *Kol Bo* (Rimini 1525-1526) printed by Gershom Soncino, with the famous tower of Soncino on its frontispiece (131).

The other 16th-century exemplars come mainly from Cremona, Mantua, Ferrara and Verona in Italy, one from Isny in Bavaria, and the rest from the East. The Midrash on Psalms (Constantinople 1512) is from the earliest period of printing in the Ottoman capital (159). Another two from Constantinople were issued by Gershon's son Eliezer Soncino (102, 191). Three books on large paper from Salonika in the 1560s may reflect a pronounced Ottoman interest in special papers in those years (28, 61, 79).

Delmedigo's scientific treatise *Sefer Elim* printed by Manasseh Ben Israel (Amsterdam 1628-29), one of the most lavishly illustrated scientific works in Hebrew, stands out on wide-margined paper (68). Two others from 18th-century Amsterdam are on so-called "regal" (royal) paper (26, 151). Two books from Venice, one of the 16th century (194) and the other of the 18th (147), are on thick paper.

MARGINALIA. A number of books offered here, especially of the 16th century, feature hand-written commentary or marginal annotation. Several have marginalia throughout or extensive annotation (79, 119, 136, 147, 164, 178, 179). Among them is one with a hand-coloured title-page (53), two with annotation in Greek and Latin (137, 179), and several with notes in more than one hand (4, 182). Two of the annotated copies are printed on blue paper (164, 189), and four on wide-margined paper (30, 79, 147, 182). The combination of manuscript and print, of which these are all good examples, is a little-studied area of Hebrew booklore.

UNICA. The Trust held many unique, uniquely complete, or excessively rare copies of early Hebraica, of which a number of examples are offered here. Among copies flawless in their completeness are Kimhi's *Shorashim* (Naples 1491), wide-margined and with a rare final leaf (123); Shahor's *Arba'ah Turim* (Augsburg 1540) with a rare 2-leaf index which according to Steinschneider is often missing (113); Isserles' *Torat ha-'olah* (Prague 1569-70) with the rare final leaf, missing in most copies (108); and the collection of Pentateuch super-commentaries *Margaliyot tovah* (Amsterdam 1722) with an astronomical plate at the end, usually lacking (18). The afore-mentioned copy of Delmedigo's *Elim* includes a rare introductory leaf in Latin (68). According to one bibliographer, only one other copy of Fagius' Christological Hebrew-Latin *Birkat ha-mazon* (Isny 1542) was known to exist (158), and Karo's *Shulhan 'Arukh* (Cracow 1583-1586) is unrecorded in a standard reference work (121).

VARIANTS. One of the most difficult but fecund areas of bibliography is the comparison of variant copies. Lunzer attempted to acquire - and keep - variant copies of the same book, whose discrepant texts are often important for intellectual history. Several lots furnish both variants together, three instances curiously from Mantua. One of the copies of the Sabbioneta-Mantua Mishnah of 1562 includes a set of variant leaves (162), as well as folding charts added in manuscript. The text of the introduction to Zarza's *Mekor Hayim* (Mantua 1559) differs between copies (208). The Ashkenazi Mahzor printed in three towns (Sabbioneta-Cremona-Venice 1556-60) comes with eight additional leaves with variant *mise-en-page* (146). The two copies of De Rossi's *Me'or 'Enayim* (Mantua 1574) differ not only in text (the author changed statements perceived heretical) but one copy contains six (!) additional unnumbered leaves (67). The title-page of the Amsterdam Haggadah of 1695, the first Haggadah with copper-engraved illustrations, exists in two variants (82-83). So many variant versions have never been offered together in an auction.

FIRST EDITIONS. Lunzer was fond of quoting a dictum of his friend the historian Jacob Katz: "Ich lese nur aus erste Ausgaben" [I only read first editions]. Valmadonna was replete in first editions of classic texts, no fewer than 70 of which are offered here, among them works by Abarbanel, Baruch and Eleazar of Worms, Gikatillia, Isaac of Düren, Moses Isserles, Solomon Luria, *Sforno*, and many others. Several first editions are deluxe copies on blue (71, 104, 189), others on large paper (28, 61, 159, 182, 191, 194). Of particular note is the 1751 pseudo-Amsterdam (actually Altona) edition of Emden's *Ets Avot* (72). Vital's *Keter Torah* (Constantinople 1536) is an uncut copy (203). One of the Spanish first editions of the 17th century (92, 93, 97) is Manasseh Ben Israel's *Conciliador*.

LITURGIES. It was Lunzer's long-expressed wish to prepare a volume entitled, à la Berliner, "Aus meiner Bibliothek," drawing attention to Valmadonna's rarissima. In particular he wanted to devote a volume to sundry and exotic liturgies, especially unica and ignota [unique copies and unknown books], as Berliner styled them. Happily, the present catalogue lists more early and rare liturgies than have ever appeared in a single auction before. Among them are deluxe copies on vellum or coloured paper (145, 141, 148, 149), large paper for use by the cantor (147), with instructions in Yiddish (141), with a kabbalistic device (149), and the first prayer book printed in Jerusalem (150), in addition to the above-cited first printed prayer book from Casalmaggiore, the Mahzor printed in three towns, and special Hagadot.

BIBLES, TALMUDS, AMERICANA, SCIENCES, KABBALAH, INDEXES. This sale of Valmadonna treasures features special or particular copies in many areas of Hebrew literature from the first centuries of printing. Of the

many Bibles, most significant is the seventh edition of the *Biblia Rabbinica* (Amsterdam 1724-1725); a large folio on regal paper with red-tinted edges, it is the first rabbinic Bible produced entirely by Jews (56). Also notable are two editions, in multi-volume sets, of the classic rabbinic text, the Babylonian Talmud. Froben's Basle edition was intended to replace the crateloads of Talmuds burned in Venice in the mid-16th century (200). The first Amsterdam edition of the Talmud, printed by Benveniste in the 17th century and important for its uncensored text, is in an exquisite original binding (201).

Two items of Americana are the most important early historiographical works in this field. Joseph ha-Kohen's chronicle *Divre ha-yamim le-malkhe tsorfat u-malkhe bet Otoman ha-Togar* [History of the kings of France and the Ottoman Turks] (Sabbioneta 1553-54) gives the earliest Hebrew account of the discovery of the new world (12). Farissol's geographic treatise *Igeret Orhot 'olam* (Venice 1586-1587) has an entire chapter devoted to America, the first such treatment in a Hebrew book, with a shield-like diagram of America (11).

Of scientific texts, Münster's *Hokhmat ha-mazalot*, Delmedigo's *Elim*, and the *Margaliot tovah*, all mentioned above, stand out. The Adelkind-Foà edition of Maimonides' *Moreh Nevukhim* (Sabbioneta 1553) has an appended discussion by Moses Provençal on the Theorem of Apollonius (166). Kabbalistic works, most from the 16th century (9, 21, 77, 103, 117), include deluxe copies (104, 182) and some graphic elements (65, 149). Also on offer here (aside from the substantial reference collection described below) are several of the earliest Hebrew indexes: two editions of Figo's *Zikhron Torat Mosheh* (Constantinople 1553 and Prague 1623) on Talmud and Midrash (73-74), and Florentin's *Doresh Mishpat* (Salonika 1655) on Jewish law (75).

JEWISH LANGUAGES. Valmadonna held some of the rarest editions of texts in the various Hebrew-character Jewish languages, including Aramaic. Of Hebrew Bibles accompanied by the Aramaic translation, the Pentateuch with Targum, Rashi and Nahmanides printed in Salonika in 1520 is considered rarer than incunables, which it resembles typographically (34). Notable for Old Yiddish are the Ashkenazic liturgy on vellum (Mantua 1558) with instructions in the vernacular (141); the Cremona Pentateuch of 1560 with Yiddish translation of Rashi (40); Boccaccio in Yiddish (Amsterdam 1710), an early instance of world literature in this language (60); Yosipon in *vayber-taytsh* (Amsterdam 1771), illustrated throughout (116); and a rare set of the *Diskursn* (Amsterdam 1797-98), a series of polemical pamphlets between the old and new Jewish communities (13).

The illustrated Venice Haggadahs of 1599 and 1601 with Judeo-Italian, Yiddish and Ladino are the most polyglot Jewish texts ever published (80, 81). The Amsterdam Haggadah of 1712 with Yiddish and Ladino, accompanied by copperplate engravings throughout, is one of few Judeo-Spanish texts printed in Hebrew characters at Amsterdam (84). The Ladino translation of Joseph Karo's *Shulhan ha-panim* (Venice 1713) is a classic of Judeo-Spanish literature (94). The daily Sephardic liturgy printed on red-coloured paper in Vienna in 1838, which contains a kabbalistic device as well as some Ladino text, is a veritable trifecta of peculiarities (149). The *Mikhlol yofi* (Constantinople 1548-49) is known for its glosses, borrowed from Kimhi, in Judeo-Provençal, a language in which there are few printed texts.

SPANISH, PORTUGUESE, LATIN, ITALIAN. Valmadonna's holdings of Spanish and Portuguese Judaica, books printed in western and southern Europe for use by communities of former Marranos, rivalled that of the research libraries in Amsterdam, Madrid and Lisbon. The numerous examples offered here include publications from Amsterdam, Venice, Leiden and Livorno, such as Altara's *Libro de Mantenimiento de la Alma* (Venice 1609), a translation of the *Shulhan Arukh* (92); the Spanish Bible ascribed to Manasseh Ben Israel (Amsterdam 1629), a revision of the Ferrara version (48); Isaac Athias' *Tesoro de Preceptos* (Venice 1627), on the commandments (93); Isaac Costa's *Conjeturas Sagradas* (Leiden 1722), a treatise on the Early Prophets by the rabbi of Bayonne (95); Proops' Spanish Bible (Amsterdam 1718) with engraved title-pages (55); *Oracion* (Livorno 1751), a Bar Mitzvah speech (96); Manasseh Ben Israel's famous *Conciliador* (Amsterdam 1632), bound together with the Latin version (1633) with a Neo-Latin preface by Zacutus Lusitanus (97).

An unusual aspect of the present offering is the large number of bilingual Hebrew-Latin texts, a convention of Renaissance and later Christian Hebraist scholarship, often produced with the assistance of learned Jews. This is the broadest selection of works by the humanist Münster and his elder Levita ever offered at auction (35, 37-38, 130, 135, 137, 174-78). Most of Münster's books were issued in Basle, which became over the course of the 16th century a major centre of humanist Hebrew printing. His *Dikduk de-lishan arami* or *Chaldaica Grammatica* (Basle 1527) has richly historiated initials (177). His Hebrew-Latin *Mikdash Hashem* (1534-1535) was the first Hebrew Bible printed in Basle (35). Münster's Hebrew-Latin edition of the *Ikarim* (Worms 1529) is the only Hebrew book ever printed in the birthplace of Rashi (174).

Levita's apostate grandson Vittorio Eliano was involved in the printing in 1578 of *Sefer Bereshit* (Genesis), one of two Hebrew books produced in Rome in the second half of the 16th century (44). Other 16th-century

Hebraistic works include the pentaglot Book of Proverbs (Wittenberg 1564) with texts in Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Latin and German (41), and Plantin's triglot Pentateuch (Antwerp 1573) in Hebrew, Greek, and Syriac in Hebrew characters (43). Surenhuis' celebrated Hebrew-Latin Mishnah (Amsterdam 1698-1703) is one of the most elegant of all such bilingual texts (165). The full extent of the Hebrew-Latin bilingual corpus is an uncharted area of Hebrew bibliography and booklore.

Jews' involvement with Latin printing goes back more than five centuries. Gershom Soncino's edition of Petrarch (Fano 1503), dedicated to a Borgia, is one of the first of the hundred books he issued in Latin, Greek and Italian, and among the first non-Hebrew books printed by a non-converted Jew (197). The type was designed by Francesco Griffo who also cut type for Aldus. Several early works of Italian Judaica are Mitsvat nashim (Venice 1616), i.e. women's precepts in Italian (204), and Simone Luzzatto's Discorso (Venice 1638), a defense of the Jews against expulsion (110).

ILLUSTRATION AND PLATES. Illustration or graphic art of any sort is rare in Hebrew books. From the early 16th century, most of the decoration of Hebrew books was on the title-page, of which elaborate frames, woodcut borders, portals or historiated arches, as well as decorated initials, can be found here in abundance, not least a woodcut border by Holbein the Younger (113). The Valmadonna copies of illustrated Hebrew books are exceptional in their condition. Illustrations, diagrams, and miscellaneous graphic elements include pictorial images (80-83), signs of the Zodiac (105, 193), the Temple or its plans (38, 55, 106, 162-63), scientific and astronomical illustration (6, 68, 175, 182), body or animal parts (203), kabbalistic illustration or diagrammatic configurations (65, 67, 162-63, 149), hands (145, 148, 203), maps (11, 82-84, 86), a portrait of the author (68), a coat of arms (186), and printers' devices (114, 133, 138, 148, 182).

Especially notable among the illustrated works is the bilingual Hebrew and Italian Bible printed by Bragadin for Foà, Arba'ah ve-esrim (Venice 1739-1741). The text is accompanied by four spectacular engraved plates by Francesco Grisellini, otherwise famed for his engraved title-pages and especially for Esther scrolls, which are among the greatest treasures of Jewish art. The two volumes of this Bible are further distinguished by their fine binding (57).

Also of interest are the fold-out plates, often missing in other copies. Maps of the Holy Land, included as fold-out plates in several of the Haggadahs, are among the earliest Hebrew maps (82-84). The first edition of Shemesh leshon ha-kodesh (Bergamo 1591) has fold-out grammatical charts (76); Surenhuis' Hebrew-Latin Mishnah includes some engraved folding plates (165). The first edition of Münster's illustrated astronomical treatise Hokhmat ha-mazalot (Basle 1527) has fold-out plates not found in most copies (175). Hand-drawn folding charts are bound into the 1562 Mantua Mishnah (162).

BINDINGS. Since his first exposure to Italian Hebraica, Lunzer became enamoured not only of the history of Hebrew printing but also of the external aesthetics of Hebrew books, long terra incognita (or terra nullius) of Jewish booklore. He appreciated, collected and commissioned fine bindings. Examples of old contemporary bindings are Sforza's philosophical Or 'amim (Bologna 1537), printed by the Silkweavers and elaborately tooled (190), and the Five Scrolls with Targum (Venice 1590), in elaborately gilt 17th-century calf (46). For decades the premier bookbinder in England, Bernard Middleton, one of the greatest craft bookbinders in the world, acted as private conservator to the Trust, and many books in the library benefited from his skill.

PROVENANCE. Great libraries are built on great libraries. The 1520 Salonika Pentateuch of 1520, an extreme rarity, is the Salman Schocken copy (34). Another Salonika edition, the Early Prophets with Kimhi's commentary of 1535, comes from the library of Dr Israel Mehlman (36). The Pirke Avot on vellum (Bologna 1540), extracted from the Silkweavers' Mahzor, was owned by Scholem Asch (161). The Athias' Tesoro de Preceptos (Venice 1627) has the bookplate of Mayer Sulzberger (93). The Boccaccio in vayber taytsh (Amsterdam 1710) was owned by the Yiddish bibliophile Judah A. Joffe (60).

Several volumes are connected with distinguished rabbis. The Ibn Adret on blue-green paper from the library of Jonathan Eybeschuetz is noted above. The biblical concordance Me'ir Netiv (Basle 1581) has the signature of the head of the Beth Din (rabbinic court) of Warburg, the ancestral home of the banking dynasty. The wide-margined copy of Rapa's Minhah Belulah (Verona 1594), with its exquisite coat of arms on the last leaf, comes from the library of Clarence de Sola, son of the first Rabbi of Montreal (186). The most important of Manasseh Ben Israel's Bibles (Amsterdam 1631-1635) bears the bookplate of Nathan Marcus Adler, Chief Rabbi of the British Empire (150).

REFERENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY. One of the pleasures of a visit to the private Valmadonna Trust Library in London – apart from spending time with the rare books – was making use of its reference and bibliographic collection described separately below (209). Virtually every work of Hebrew bibliography, printing history, and library catalogues was here, and one would always discover some new, or old, unknown tool. The Custodian gave almost as much attention to the preservation of these volumes as to the antique and rare books.

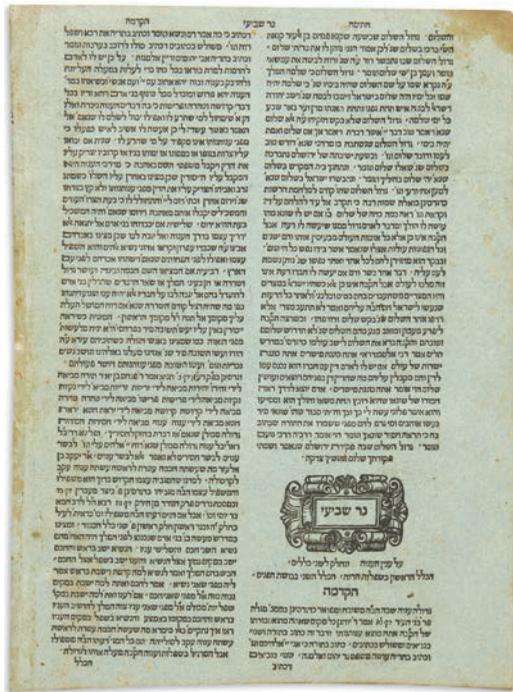
* * * * *

It was always the hope of the Trust that the Valmadonna Collection in its entirety would go to a national library and remain intact. Auspiciously, a large portion has passed to the National Library in Jerusalem, but the sheer expense and the exigencies of modern librarianship have made the accession of the whole by one institution impossible. The present sale - the last offering of this famous library to the public – gives to bibliophiles and connoisseurs an opportunity to acquire perfect treasures, the likes of which, in all their variety, history and condition, will not be seen again.

Brad Sabin Hill

*Fellow in Wissenschaft des Judentums (Marmorstein Collection)
The John Rylands Library, University of Manchester*

*Former Fellow in Hebrew Bibliography
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies*



Lot 1



Lot 2

1 ABOAB, ISAAC. Menorath HaMa'or [ethics] **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Title within architectural arch. Some marginal notes. ff. 115 (of 116) lacking final leaf. Closely trimmed and stained, title soiled, inner margins of many leaves repaired, opening several leaves with loss of text occasionally supplied in manuscript. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Mantua 95.]

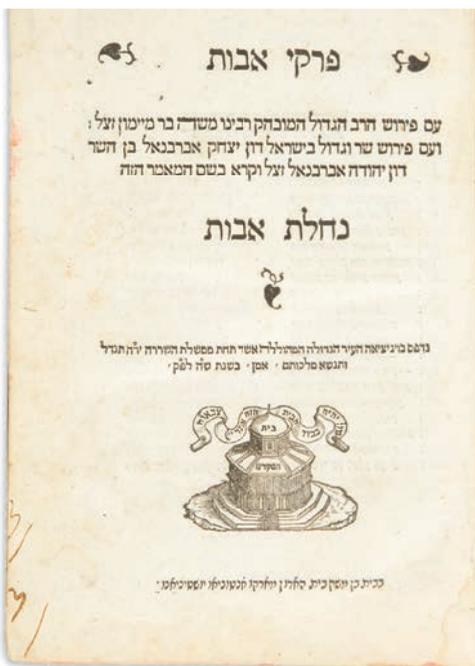
Mantua, G. Ruffinelli, 1563. **\$1500-2000**

RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 23.

2 ABOAB, ISAAC. Menorath HaMa'or [ethics]. With Nephesh Yehudah commentary. Lavish additional engraved title-page featuring the Burning Bush at top and Moses and Aaron flanking. **A WIDE-MARGIN COPY.** ff. (4), 129. Dampstained, marginal worming. Original gilt-tooled diced morocco, a.e.g., later clasps and hinges, rubbed. Tall folio. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1185.]

Amsterdam, Solomon Proops, 1722. **\$600-900**



Lot 3

3 ABRABANEL, DON ISAAC. Nachlath Avoth [commentary to the Ethics of the Fathers, with text]. With introduction by Maimonides. Second edition. Printer's device on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks no. 16). Laudatory poem by the Author's eldest son, Judah (Leone Ebreo) Abrabanel on verso of title. ff. 216 (i.e. 215). Trace marginal worming, touch foxed, final three leaves neatly remargined. Modern blind-tooled tan calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 248.]

Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1545. **\$1000-1500**

The commentary Nachlath Avoth is replete with Abrabanel's quest in determining the tragedies of his time. Abrabanel himself was no stranger to hardship, and had gone into exile at least three times in his life, first fleeing Portugal after being accused of treason, then leaving Spain under the Alhambra Decree and later escaping Naples as it fell to the French. He died in Venice in 1508, 37 years before Nachlath Avoth would be printed there. For a detailed biography of Abrabanel's experiences and philosophical conclusions regarding the Spanish Expulsion, see B. Netanyahu: Don Isaac Abravanel, Statesman & Philosopher (1968).



Lot 4

4 ABRABANEL, DON ISAAC. Ma'ayenei HaYeshu'ah [commentary on the eschatological chapters in the Book of Daniel]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within historiated architectural arch. Marginalia in two learned hands. ff. 141 (1). Neat marginal repair to title with minute signature below, portion of margin clipped from ff. 36-7 not affecting text. Modern tan crushed morocco elaborately blind-tooled, spine tooled in gilt. 4to. [Vinograd, Ferrara 5; Mehlman 625.]

(Ferrara), Samuel Gallus (Zarfati), 1551. **\$4000-6000**

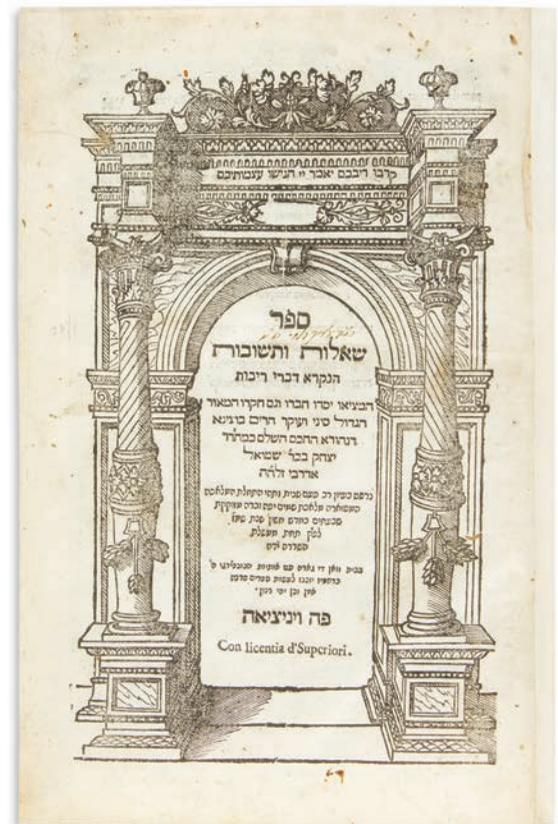
Following the Spanish Expulsion, the survivors of the catastrophe, including Don Isaac Abrabanel, struggled to comprehend their suffering and were seized with acute meta-historical feelings for the coming of the Messiah. Ma'ayenei HaYeshu'ah ("Wells of Salvation") is the first work of Abrabanel's passionate trilogy on the imminence of Messianism.

See B. Netanyahu, Don Isaac Abravanel: Statesman and Philosopher (1968) pp. 77-8.

5 ADARBI, ISAAC. Divrei Rivoth [responsa]. Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. 198 (i.e. 200). Opening few leaves trace wormed. Modern blind-tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 703.]

Venice, Di Gara, 1587. **\$400-600**

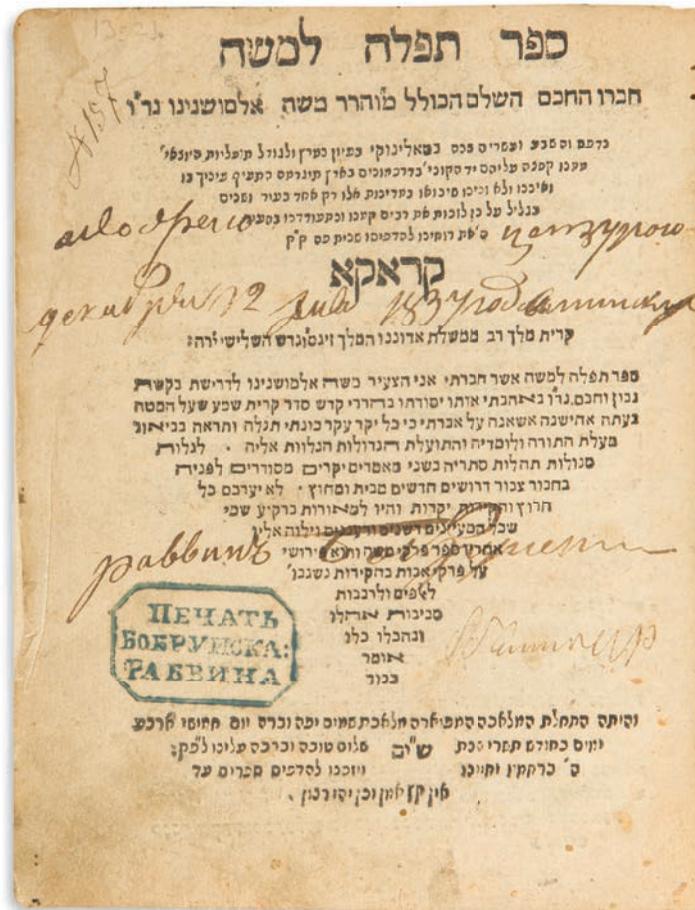
Important collection of 430 responsa. R. Isaac Adarbi (1510-84) Rabbi of the congregation of Lisbon Jews in Salonika, was a disciple of R. Joseph Ta'itatzak and a colleague of R. Samuel de Medina (MaHaRaSHDa"m). The author many times takes exception to the latter's rulings. See EJ, Vol. II, col. 254.



Lot 5



Lot 9



Lot 10

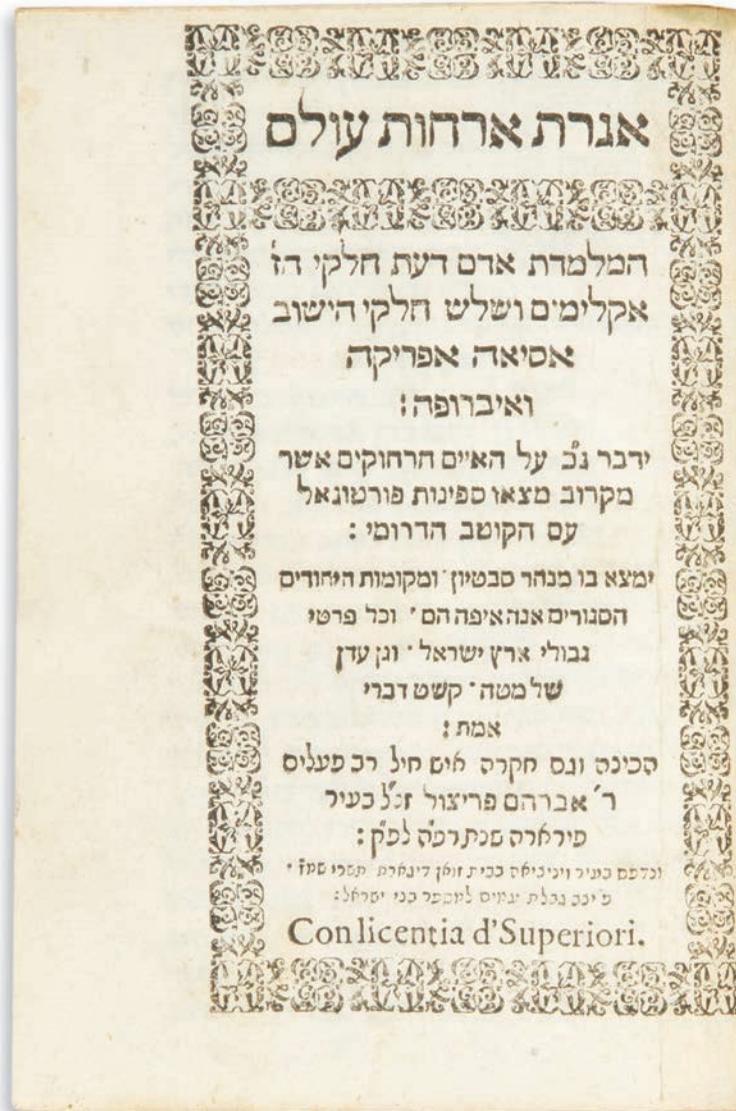
9 ALKABETZ, SOLOMON HALEVI. Shoresheh Yishai [Kabbalistic commentary to the Book of Ruth, with text]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within architectural arch. ff. 96. Foxed in places, trimmed. Modern blind-tooled calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 221.]

Constantinople, Solomon ibn Usque, 1561. **\$1200-1800**

• Solomon Alkabetz (c. 1505-84) was a liturgical poet and Kabbalist, venerated today as the composer of “Lechah Dodi,” a mystical love-song to the Sabbath Queen chanted at sundown on the Sabbath Eve. Alkabetz, emigrated from the Balkans to the Land of Israel in 1535, settling in Safed, then the center of Kabbalistic learning. There, he was part of an extraordinary fraternity of mystics that included R. Joseph Karo and R. Moses Alsheich. Alkabetz was a prolific author, producing commentaries on Song of Songs, Ruth, Esther, the Minor Prophets, Psalms, Job and the Passover Haggadah. R. Moses Cordovero was Alkabetz’s brother-in-law and initially his disciple, although it seems that eventually their relationship was reversed with Alkabetz becoming a student of Cordovero.

10 ALMOSNINO, MOSES. Tephilah LeMoshe [sermons and homilies on the merits of the Torah, with treatise on the reading of the Shema upon retirement]. Second edition. Previous owners’ marks on title-page including stamp in Cyrillic of the Rabbi of Babroisk. ff. 84. Closely shaved, browned. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Cracow 138.]

Cracow, n.p., 1589-90. **\$500-700**



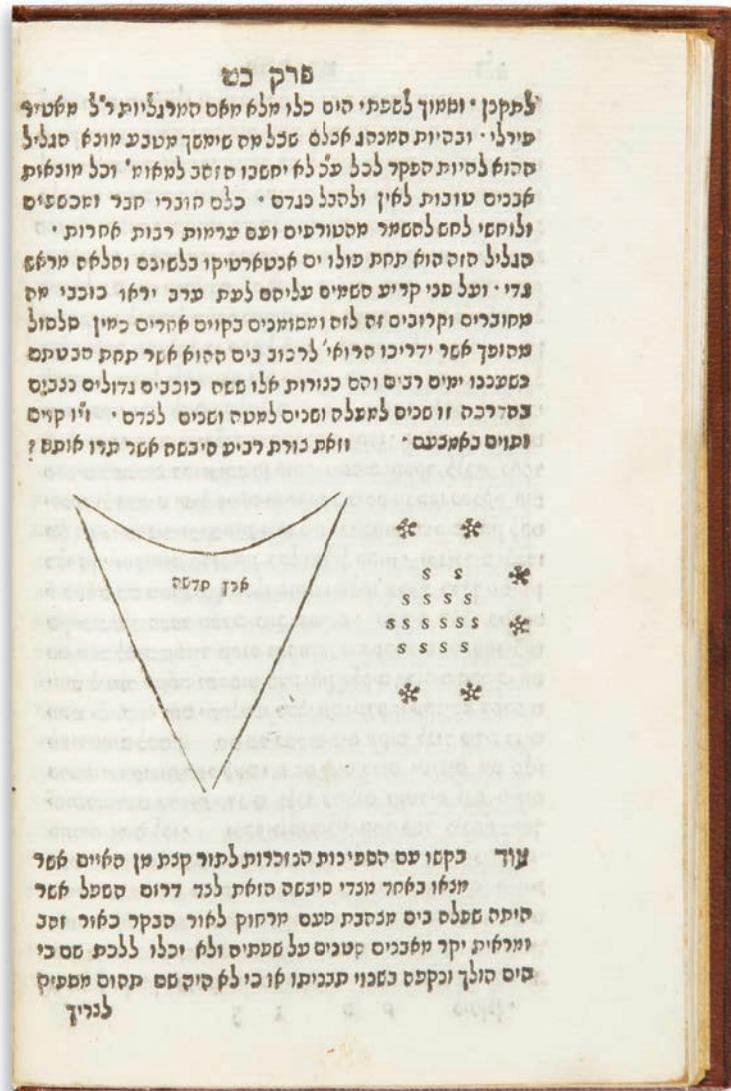
11 (AMERICANA). Abraham Farissol. Igereth Orchoth Olam ["Epistle on the Paths of the World"]. **FIRST EDITION.** Table of contents provided after the author's introduction. **DIAGRAMS OF THE NEW WORLD** and the South-Polar stars on f. 33v. Type ornament border around title and initial word. ff. 36. Trace stained, f. 7 repaired with loss of several words. Modern blind-tooled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. 12mo. [Vinograd, Venice 702.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1586-87. **\$50,000-70,000**

• **FIRST EDITION OF THE FIRST HEBREW AMERICANUM. THE EARLIEST HEBREW WORK CONTAINING A DESCRIPTION OF AMERICA.**

First written in 1524, this pioneering work on geography is divided into two parts. The first provides a general description of the earth, its division into climactic zones, continents and individual countries. The second part focuses upon the new discoveries made by Portuguese and Spanish explorers. Farissol discusses the location of the Garden of Eden, the Sambatyon River, beyond which dwell the Lost Tribes of Israel, and gives a detailed account of the discoveries of Vasco da Gama and his travels to India.

In his chapter on the discovery of America, making this the first Hebrew book to record such, Farissol describes both the land and the people living there, based upon contemporary accounts. He writes; "They do not have a prince nor a ruler, neither laws nor a God, rather, we shall say they behave according to what is natural. They do not own property or possessions as individuals, for everything there is without an owner. Instead, they eat and forge a living for themselves together as one" (f. 33r).



Farissol was the Cantor of the Synagogue in Ferrara and a contemporary of Christopher Columbus. He served in the court of Renaissance patron Lorenzo de Medici, which allowed him to be well positioned to learn as much as he could about the newly discovered and explored territories in both the west and east. Farissol's interest in geography was further spurred by the (likely fictitious) works of the enigmatic adventurer David Reubeni (see Chap. 14). Some have interpreted the author's interest in the newly discovered lands as a sign of his belief in the imminence of messianic redemption. In addition to his cantorial duties, Farissol wrote a commentary to the Pentateuch and a book of religious polemics, defending Judaism from Christian and Islamic arguments against Judaism.

See D. Ruderman, *The World of a Renaissance Jew: The Life and Thought of Abraham ben Mordecai Farissol* (1981), chap. 11; and André Neher, *Jewish Thought and the Scientific Revolution of the Sixteenth Century* (1986) pp. 122-135.

CELEBRATED FOR THE SHIELD-LIKE DIAGRAM LABELED IN HEBREW "NEW LAND" THIS WORK IS THE MOST SCARCE OF AMERICAN-RELATED HEBREW TEXTS.

ספר דברי הימים

למלכי צרפת ומלכי בית אוטומאן התונג

בראות זרחים הלוי כן אחות המחבר
יופי הדר הספר ונוף יערת אמריו :
העיר ה' רוחו והואיל גם הוא לדבר
ויפתח פיו בסירי רכניו :

זיאמר

כל	החפץ למצא חפץ	בזמן היה לפנינו
	יקח ספר זכרוננו זה	בנדרוד שינה יקראנו
	כי בו יראה דברי מלכי	גויס ולקץ גלוננו
	אם יזכה יבחין בין גודל	מלכי אומו למשיחנו
	ובכן יתן אל תודה	כי לא עזב חסדו מנו
	לתת לנו סופר גתיר	כותב זכרונות עמנו

תם

12 (AMERICANA). Joseph ben Joshua HaKohen. Divrei HaYamim LeMalchei Tzarfath U'Malchei Beith Othoman HaTogar ["History of the Kings of France and the Ottoman Turks."] **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 328. *Opening and closing two leaves with neat paper repairs, variously stained in places, signatures at end. Later tooled calf, expertly rehinged, spine worn. 12mo.* [Vinograd, Sabionneta 12.]

Sabionneta, Tobias Foa-Cornilius Adelkind, 1553-4. **\$10,000-15,000**

📌 **AN IMPORTANT AND RARE WORK OF HISTORIOGRAPHY WITH MUCH MATERIAL RELATING TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE NEW WORLD.**

Despite a title that limits itself to the Royalty of France and the Ottomans, HaKohen's work is in fact a universal history of more than a millennia - from the foundation of the Frankish kingdom by Clovis at the end of the 5th-century to the year 1550.

This broad chronological account of Euro-Asian history is the most important text by the Genoese-Jewish scholar Joseph HaKohen (1496-1575), a native of Provence, who wrote in Voltaggio, a small village above Genoa. HaKohen was one of the few Jewish historians of the Renaissance (and later) who also focused upon non-Jewish themes. The author presents here his text on the basis of the struggle between East and West - the outcome of which depended upon the treatment of Jews by each civilization: Christian and Muslim. France represented to HaKohen the leading Western power and the Ottoman Empire the Eastern power - each, battling for supremacy.

The work is divided into two parts. The first covers the period from the decline of the Roman Empire to the deaths of Maximilian I (in 1519) and Selim I (in 1520). The larger second part focuses upon the 33 years between 1520 to the year of the book's publication. Clearly the author felt that the era in which he was living was a new, significant epoch that had broken away from the past.

The book includes a lengthy account of the discovery of the New World recording recent explorations and discoveries, which in turn shone a perspective on the often negative relationship between Europe's Jews and Christians. HaKohen envisioned the settlement of newly discovered territories in the Americas as a harbinger of a new age in which social injustice and discrimination would cease to exist.

THE FIRST HEBREW BOOK TO USE THE WORD "AMERICA" IN DESCRIBING THE NEW WORLD (see ff. 154-55)

See N.J. Efron, "Knowledge of Newly Discovered Lands among the Jewish Communities of Europe" in: P. Bernadini and N. Fiering (eds.) *The Jews and the Expansion of Europe to the West 1450-1800* (2001) pp. 54-7; R. J. H. Gottheil, *Columbus in Jewish Literature* in: *AJHSP*, Vol. II (1894); M.J. Heller, *The Sixteenth-Century Hebrew Book*, Vol. 1 (2004) p. 387.



Lot 13

13 (AMSTERDAM). Diskuhrs [weekly polemical pamphlets between two warring Dutch communities] Complete set of issues from each side, bound together in one volume. Text in Yiddish and Dutch. Collation available upon request. Few leaves laid to size, lightly browned. Contemporary calf-backed speckled boards, spine title in Yiddish. 8vo. Sold not subject to return. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 2240-42.]

Amsterdam, 1797-98. \$4000-6000

• A lengthy series of lampoons issued as an extension of the rivalry between the Old and New Kehillehs of the Ashkenazi community in Amsterdam.

The Neie Kehille (New Congregation) Adath Yeshurun first established itself in Amsterdam in 1796. Along with instituting a number of changes to synagogue style, the New Congregation angered the Alte Kehille (Old Congregation) by issuing regulations that excluded the jurisdiction of the Parnassim from the actions of members within civil life. A reflection of the increasing bitterness between each side was the weekly appearance of these "Diskuhrs" pamphlets. Written in the style of travelers' tales, containing crude, but clever satirical attacks upon the other side, these contentious pamphlets represent a most unique literary genre and are important as a primary source for the study of the political, economic, religious and social upheaval of the period.

See M. Gans, *Memorbook* (1977) pp. 290-3; J. Michman, *De Diskursen in: Studia Rosenthaliana*, Vol. 24 (1990) pp. 22-35; *Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana-Treasures of Jewish Booklore* (1994) pp. 86-7 (illustrated).



14 [ANAV, YECHIEL BEN YEKUTHIEL(?) / ANAV, ZEDEKIAH BEN ABRAHAM (?)]. Sefer Tanya [compilation of Jewish law and custom as applied by the Jews of Italy (Minhag Bnei Roma)] Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. (6) 136. Browned, few paper repairs, fore-edges worn in places, stamps removed from opening two leaves. Modern calf, elaborately blind-tooled. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Cremona 36.]

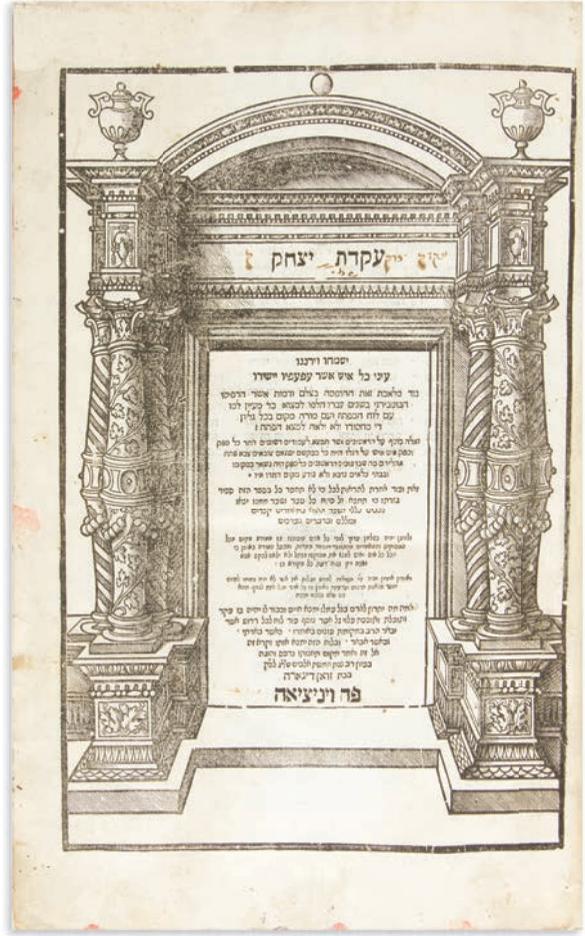
Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1565. \$400-600

• "An assemblage of all the laws and customs proper for every Jewish man, in clear and easy language" (title). Due to the many similarities between this work and *Shibbolei HaLeket*, it has been suggested that the authors of the two works were either students of the same teacher, or that one of the works was intended to be a concise form of the other. See M.J. Heller, *The Sixteenth-Century Hebrew Book*, pp. 564-5.

Lot 14



Lot 15



Lot 16

15 ANAV, ZEDEKIAH HAROFE. *Shibolei HaLeket* [“The Gathered Sheaves”: Rabbinic Code]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within architectural arch. ff. 55. *Touch stained, trace wormed along extreme upper margin. Modern chestnut calf with central blind-tooled device. Sm. folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 295.]

Venice, Cornelio Edelkind for Daniel Bomberg, 1546. **\$700-900**

• A compilation of halachic material, *Shibolei HaLeket* primarily focuses upon material that would later comprise the bulk of *Orach Chaim*. The author cites earlier works, and then after a brief debate, states his particular position. This style of combining earlier works with its’ own deliberations, led *Shibolei HaLeket* as being cited by the *Beth Yosef* in practically every portion of *Orach Chaim*.

The Anav family (Heb. *Min-Ha’Anavim*) had a long-standing tradition as being one of four aristocratic families Emperor Titus brought from Jerusalem to Rome following the destruction of the Second Temple in the year 70 C.E. Zedekiah ben Abraham (1225-97) was one of many distinguished Talmudists to emerge from this illustrious Roman family.

16 ARAMA, ISAAC. *Akeidath Yitzchak* [philosophical and allegorical homilies to the Pentateuch and Five Megiloth]. **FIRST EDITION** with commentary to the Five Scrolls. Title within woodcut architectural arch. First words of Genesis and Exodus in white within arabesques. ff. 308, 12. *Browned and stained in places. Modern calf. Tall folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 587.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1573. **\$700-900**

• Affectionately known as the “*Ba’al Akeidah*,” Isaac Arama’s work has been consistently quoted and utilized until the present day. The author’s great popularity stems from his stylistic combination of the Aschkenazic moralizing style with the philosophic tendency popular among Spanish and Provençal Jews. The title of the work, “*Binding of Isaac*,” refers to the successful binding and connecting of the two forms of homiletics: “*Derishah*” and “*Perishah*.” See I. Rivkind, *Kiryat Sepher*, vol. II p. 60.



Lot 17

17 ARAMA, MEIR BEN ISAAC. Meir Iyov [commentary to Book of Job, with text]. Second edition. Title letters historiated. Printer's device on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks no. 34). ff. 124. Some light browning, trace marginal wormholes, previous owners' marks on title, signed by censor at end. Modern gilt-tooled crushed morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 546.]

(Riva di Trento -) Venice, Giorgio di Cavali, [1562]-1567. \$500-700

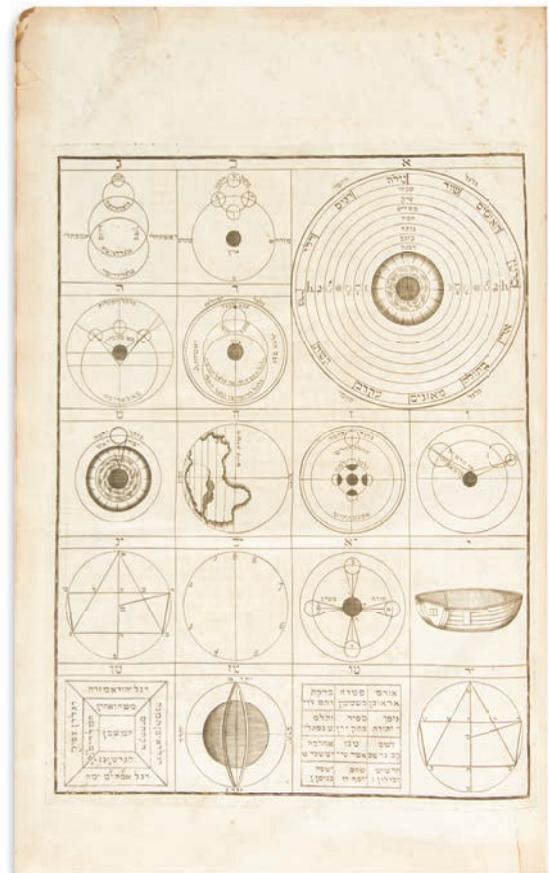
• Meir Arama (1460-1545) a native of Saragossa, fled the Expulsion to Naples and eventually sunk roots in Salonika, where he preached to the emigré Aragonian Community. He was the son of the “Ba'al Ha'Akeidah.”

The printing of this edition commenced in Riva di Trento in 1562, however production was interrupted and eventually removed to Venice for completion. There, a new title-page was issued noting Venice as being the place of publication, although non-uniform fonts completed the volume (viz. ff. 5-44 and 49-64). See Tauber & Sonne, Kiryat Sepher vol. VI pp. 455-56 and vol. VII pp. 168-6.

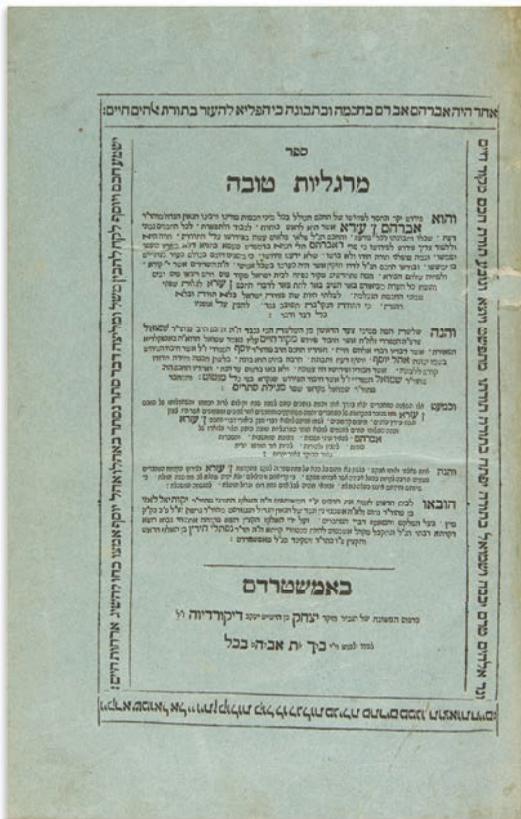
18 ASCHKENAZI, YEKUTHIEL (Editor). Margalioth Tovah [super-commentaries to Abraham ibn Ezra on the Pentateuch: Ohel Yoseph, Mekor Chaim and Megilath Setarim] **FIRST EDITION.** With astronomical plate at end (usually lacking). **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. (4), 156, (1). Ex-library, lightly browned. Original calf over thick wooden boards, two hinges, lacking clasps, rubbed, expertly rebacked. Tall folio. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1192.]

Amsterdam, Isaac de Corova, 1722. \$700-900

• **A FINE WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** The editor states he gave this work the title Margalioth Tovah based upon the Midrash suggesting that an exquisite pearl hung from the neck of the Biblical Abraham. He compares Abraham ibn Ezra 'in spirit' to the Abraham of the Bible.



Lot 18



Lot 19

19 ASCHKENAZI, YEKUTHIEL. (Editor). Margalioth Tovah [supercommentaries to Abraham ibn Ezra on the Pentateuch: Ohel Yoseph, Mekor Chaim and Megilath Setarim] **FIRST EDITION, DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** ff. (4), 156 (1). Modern tan calf elaborately tooled in gilt, slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1192.]

Amsterdam, Isaac de Cordova, 1722. **\$700-900**

⚡ **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

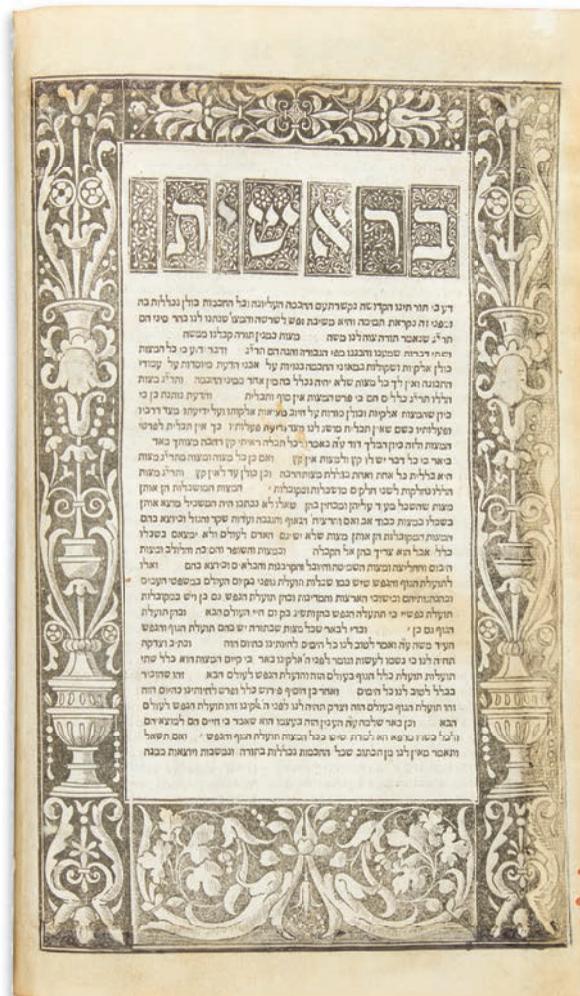
See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 33.

20 BACHIAH BEN ASHER. Bi'ur al HaTorah [commentary to the Pentateuch]. Individual letters of opening word of each Book historiated, initial page of Genesis within full elegant woodcut border, printed throughout in two columns. Few marginal notes. ff. (274). *A made-up copy. Opening leaf laid to size with two words supplied in facsimile, following four leaves and final ten leaves remargined, stained in places, few paper repairs, passages censored in places. Modern blind-tooled calf.* Folio. [Vinograd, Pesaro 32.]

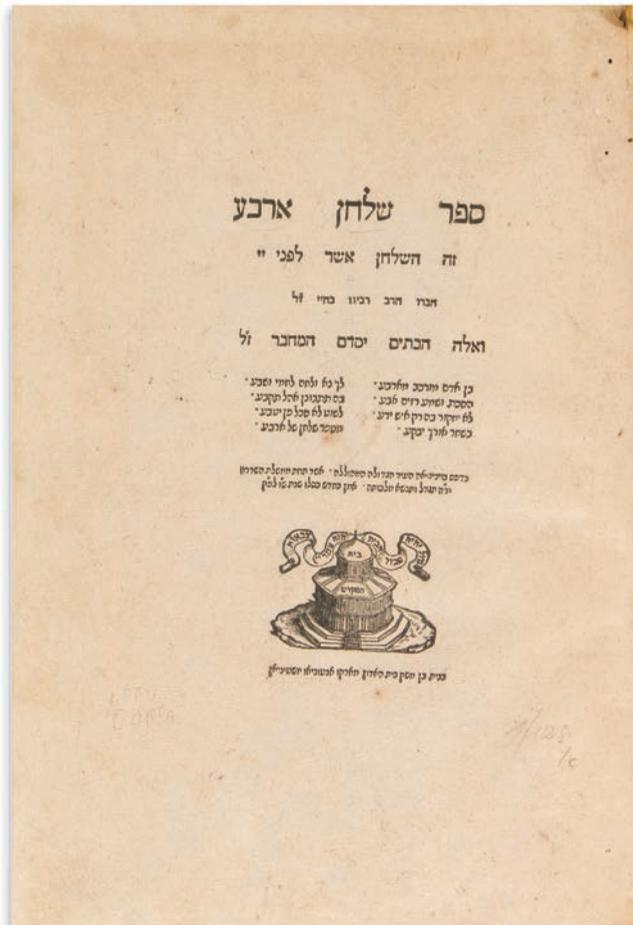
Pesaro, Gershom Soncino, 1514. **\$5000-7000**

⚡ R. Bachiah ben Asher ibn Halawa (1255-1340) was one of the most eminent Iberian exegetical writers to the Bible. His work derives heavily from unsourced Kabbalistic material, as well as from the writings of Nachmanides. Bachiah saw himself as a spiritual heir to the latter, as he was taught by Nachmanides' student, R. Solomon ben Adret (RaSHB"Y).

Although this volume underwent the censor, an 18th-century hand has provided the effaced text (ff. 26a, 63b, et al). In any event, the censor's ink has now worn out to the point that the words beneath are easily visible. Especially detested by the censor were descriptions of Divine retribution against Israel's oppressors, as well as negative references to Edom (i.e. Rome), the symbol of Christian Europe.



Lot 20



Lot 21

- 21 BACHIAH BEN ASHER.** Shulchan (shel) Arba [on proper conduct at the table, benedictions, the Banquet in the World to Come and resurrection of the dead] **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BROWN/PINK PAPER.** Printer's device on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks no. 16). *ff.* 11. *Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 296.]

Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for Marco Antonio Giustiniani, 1546. **\$4000-6000**

- **HIGHLY SCARCE BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON LIGHT CHOCOLATE PAPER.**

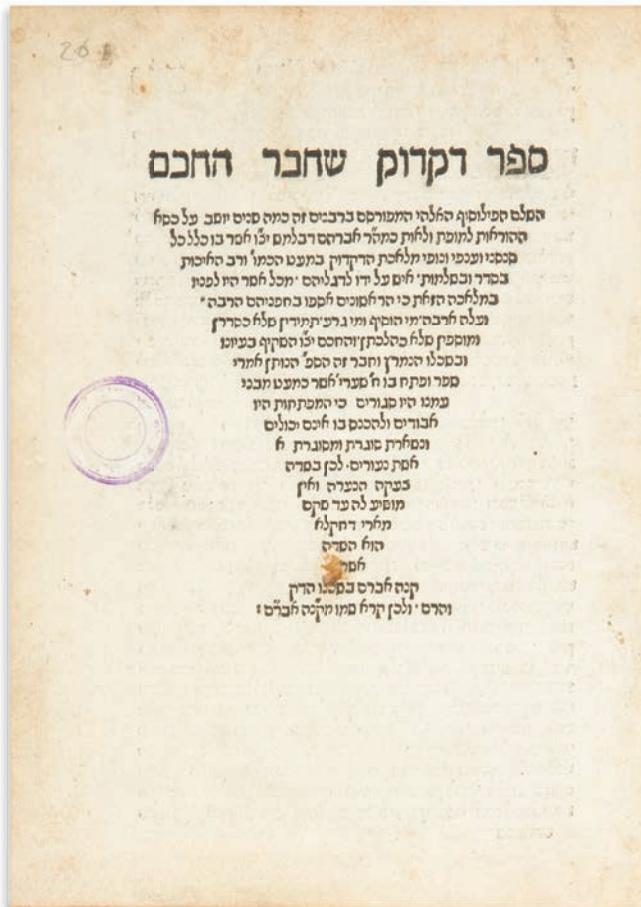
Accompanied by correspondence to the Librarian of the Valmadonna Trust from an analytical chemist, recording his views on the scientific composition of the 16th-century colored paper.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 2.

- 22 BACHIAH BEN ASHER.** Biur al HaTorah [Kabbalistic commentary to the Pentateuch] (*ff.* 260). *Stained, Opening leaf supplied in facsimile, few marginal repairs, final leaf laid down with loss supplied in facsimile. Modern crushed morocco, slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Rimini 5; Mehlman 640.]

Rimini, Gershom Soncino, 1524-26. **\$2000-3000**

- The immense popularity of Rabbeinu Bachiah's work is attested to by the dozen or so super-commentaries written to it. Additionally, his commentary serves as the oldest source for a number of otherwise unknown Midrashim, whose manuscript forms have since been lost.



Lot 23



Lot 24

23 BALMES, ABRAHAM DE. Mikneh Avram (Sepher Dikduk). **FIRST EDITION.** Hebrew only issue (with vowel points). ff. 157. Remnants of ink-stamp on title, trace stained in places, otherwise a clean copy. Modern blind-tooled diced morocco, spine tilled in gilt. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 82.]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg, 1523. **\$1200-1800**

✦ Distinguished in many fields, de Balmes was an ordained rabbi, a translator of scientific and philosophical works from Hebrew into Latin, as well as a lecturer at the University of Padua, where he attained renown as an Aristotelian. He also served as physician to Cardinal Grimani of Venice.

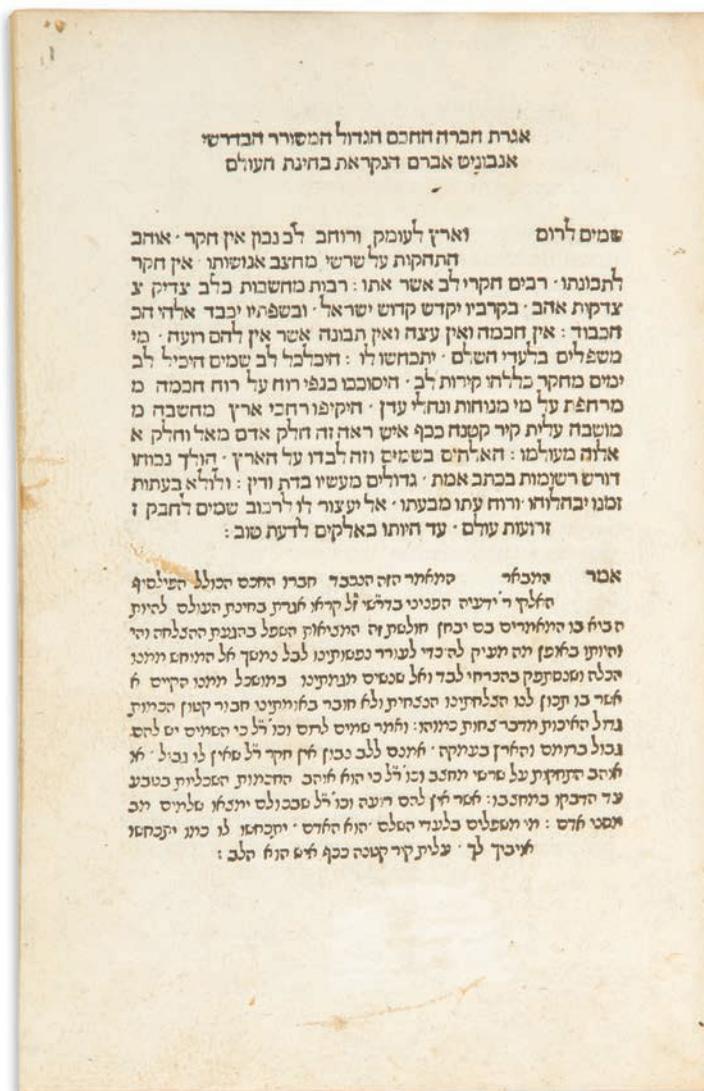
Greatly valued by contemporary Christian Hebraists, de Balmes prepared this grammatical study at the urging of the printer Bomberg, with whom a deep friendship was shared. Mikneh Avram appeared in two issues, with and without a Latin translation, i.e., one for the Jewish market, and the bilingual issue more suited to the needs of Christians. The Hebrew version has a different title-page than the bilingual edition and the introduction is printed in Rashi letters, whereas the introduction in the bilingual version is printed in square Hebrew letters. The present "Jewish" version is far more scarce, as the Christian-owned editions were unlikely to have been desecrated over the centuries. See D. Amram, *The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy* (1963) pp. 169-72.

24 BARUCH BEN ISAAC OF WORMS. Sepher HaTerumah. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 140. Trace wormed in places, otherwise a MINT COPY. Modern maroon morocco. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Venice 91.]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg, 1523. **\$3000-4000**

✦ A Rabbinic Code ordered by Talmudic tractate, the Sepher HaTerumah has a particular focus on the laws pertaining to Eretz Israel, The work has been included in much subsequent Halachic literature, among those who invoke its authority are Rabbis Isaac b. Moses (Or Zaru'a), Moses of Coucy (SeMa"G), Zedekiah Anav (Shibbolei HaLeket) and Aaron of Lunel (Orchoth Chaim).

The Author, Baruch ben Isaac of Worms (late 12th-early 13th century) was a member of the Tosafist school that thrived in France, having studied under R. Isaac of Dampierre. For this reason, relatively few German authorities are cited by him in the Sepher HaTerumah, while citations of the master Tosafists Rabbi Samuel ben Meir (RaSHBa"M) and Rabbi Jacob of Ramrupt (Rabbeinu Tam) abound.



25 BEDERSI, YEDAI'AH (HAPENINI). Bechinath Ha'Olam ["Contemplation of the World."] With anonymous commentary. Second edition. Text in square Hebrew characters, commentary in cursive rabbinic types *Complete in ff.* (20). Light staining, mostly marginal. Manuscript cipher on f. 5r; a single phrase (two words) censored on verso of final leaf, stamps removed on opening and closing pages. Modern blind-tooled and paneled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. 4to. [Vinograd, Soncino 8; Steinschneider, p. 1284, no. 5670.2; Goff Heb-61; Thes. A-30; Offenberg 76; BMC XIII, p. 31; Iakerson 23.]

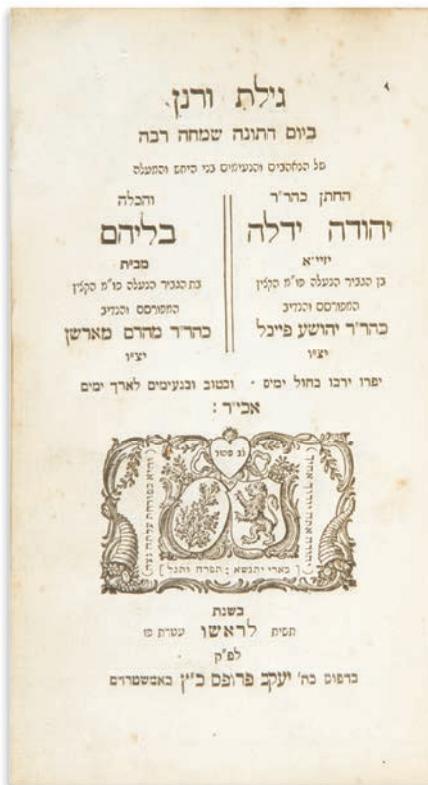
Soncino, Joshua Solomon ben Israel Nathan Soncino, 1484. **\$20,000-25,000**

• Bechinath Ha'Olam is a profound poetic composition on the futility and vanity of the world and the inestimably greater benefits of intellectual and religious pursuits. The author, Yedai'ah ben Avraham Bedersi HaPenini (c.1270-1340) was born in Béziers, Provence (HaBedersi=of Béziers) and skillfully uses florid prose, rich in imagery, to present a combination of philosophic doctrine and religious fervor tempered with a measured level of asceticism and pessimism. His poetic virtuosity was established early in life and in his youth, Yedai'ah composed a poetic prayer of 1,000 words titled "Bakashath HaMemim," every word of which begins with the letter mem. He is also credited with a similar composition, Elef Alfin, every word of which begins with alef, though some attribute the latter poem to Yedaiah's father, Abraham.

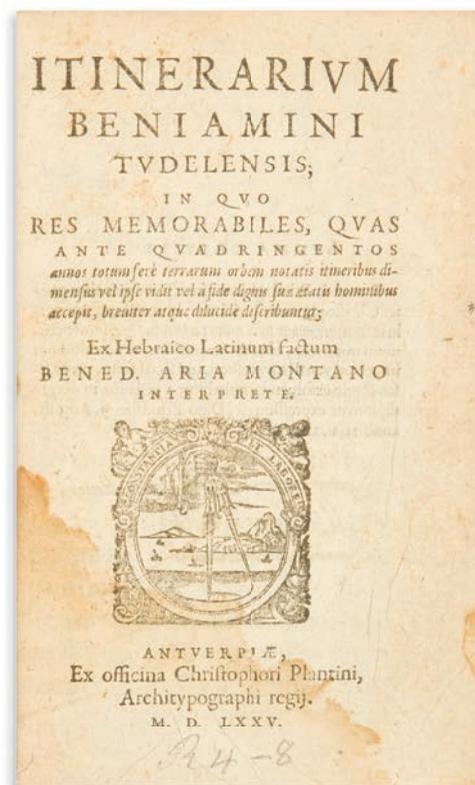
In the Bechinath Ha'Olam, his most famous work, Yedai'ah finds consolation in Maimonides' world of ideas, concluding that the greatest achievement for man is to "perfect one's understanding and immerse oneself in the grandeur of the idea of God. No power in the world can break man's will when he strives toward this exalted goal." Both the text and the commentary conclude with lavish encomia of Maimonides.

It is curious to note that in Italy, where this work was first printed, copies of this edition are preserved in only two collections, Parma and the Vatican.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 13.



Lot 26



Lot 27

26 BELINFANTE, ISAAC HAKOHEN. Gilath VeRanan [epithalamium] **PRINTED ON FINE, REGALE PAPER.** Each page within type-ornament border. *ff.* (12). *Original gilt-tooled green morocco, a.e.g. rubbed. 8vo.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 2064.]

Amsterdam, Jacob Proops, 1777. **\$500-700**

27 BENJAMIN OF TUDELA. Itinerarium Beniamini Tudelensis [Travels of Benjamin of Tudela]. Translated from Hebrew into Latin by Benedictus Aria Montano. **FIRST LATIN EDITION.** Printer's device on title. Annotated throughout. *pp.* 114, (14). *Trimmed and stained. Later speckled calf, rubbed and expertly rebacked. 12mo.* [Adams B-670.]

Antwerp, Christopher Plantin, 1575. **\$2000-3000**

• The author set forth in 1159 from Tudela, Spain, to travel to the Holy Land, crossing France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Syria and Lebanon to get there. He then continued eastwards, reaching Iraq and later Persia; his description of the ruins of Nineveh is one of the oldest reliable sources extant. Returning to Spain, Benjamin passed through Egypt and North Africa. He lingered wherever he traveled, and noted the manners and commerce of the various communities he came in contact with. Benjamin made detailed reports of the political situation of his fellow Jews, surveying the activities of communal organizations and supplying the names of the principal Jews of each city visited. Probably no account - Jewish or Gentile - of the Mediterranean and the Middle East in this period, can equal the level of detail provided by Benjamin of Tudela.

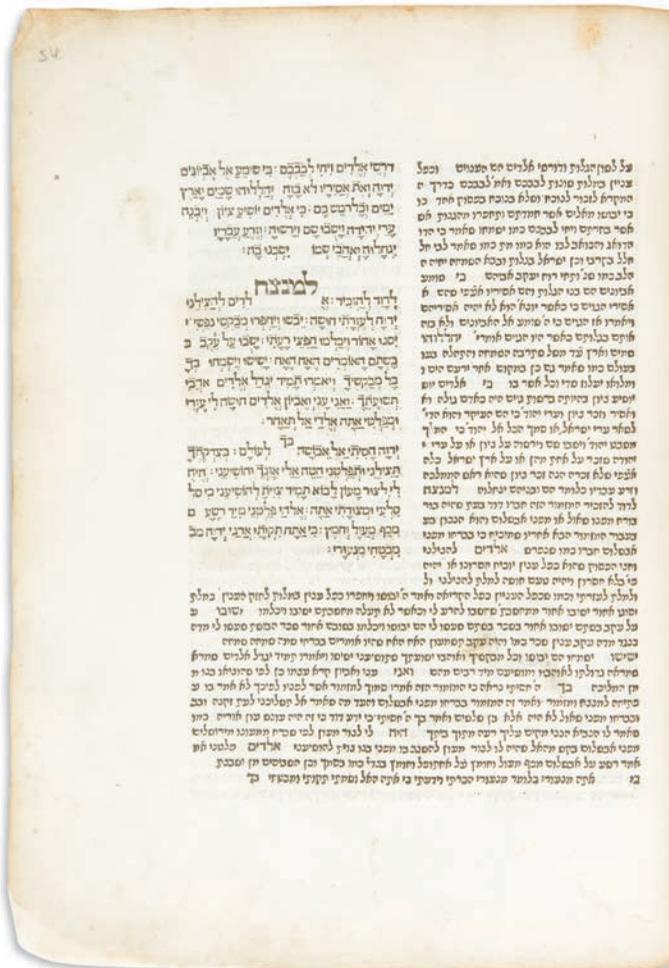
28 BENVENISTE, MEIR. Oth Emeth [annotations and emendations to various Midrashic and liturgical texts]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title surrounded by florets. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** *ff.* 182. *Signatures, stamp and small tear on title-page, trace wormed and with few stains in places, otherwise a clean copy. Modern full vellum. 4to.* [Vinograd, Salonika 65.]

Salonika, Joseph Ya'avetz, 1564-5. **\$2000-3000**

• Important work containing emendations for the correct readings of various Midrashic texts including Mechilta, Sifre and Sifra. Includes some lengthier notes and comments from a manuscript by R. Judah Gedaliah and other anonymous commentators. The final section, Seder Kedusha (pp. 173-81) corrects erroneous readings in the Sephardic Seder Tephilah, presenting alternates along with scholarly halachic sources.



Lot 28



29 (BIBLE, Hebrew. Psalms). Sopher Tehilim. With commentary by David Kimchi (RaDa"K). Biblical text in square type with nikud. Kimchi's commentary in rabbinic type without Nikud. Edited by Jacob Baruch ben Judah Landau Aschkenazi. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 113 (of 118). Lacking the final blank (absent in most copies); ff. 1-3 and 7 expertly reproduced in facsimile, including decorative initial word panel; ff. 4-6 mounted, most lower outer corners strengthened. Censored as expected, though prodigious (and certainly contemporary) efforts were clearly made to remove the censor's erasures and render the text readable. Additional fragmentary portions of ff. 17-20 also included loosely laid in place. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco, titles gilt on spine. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Naples 4; Steinschneider, col. 2, no. 6; Goff Heb-29; Thes. A-57; Offenberg 35; BMC XIII, p. 50; Iakerson 44.]

Naples, Joseph ben Jacob Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser, 1487. **\$15,000-20,000**

• This edition of Psalms, complete with R. David Kimchi's commentary, was issued by Gunzenhauser the same year as several other volumes of Kethuvim (also called Hagiographa, the third and final section of the Hebrew Bible, following the Torah and the Prophets) including the book of Job, The Five Scrolls (Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Lamentations, Ruth), Daniel, Ezra and Nehemiah (see next lots).

Joseph and Azriel Gunzenhauser, pioneers of Hebrew printing, settled in Naples from Gunzenhausen, Germany. In Naples they established a press, assembled a talented team of typesetters and proof-readers and between the years 1487-92 produced in sum twelve books. The Naples edition of Psalms, Gunzenhauser's first imprint, is also the first edition of Psalms to use nikud, (vocalized text accomplished through the addition of vowel points, accents, and diacritic marks) throughout the text. An earlier Hebrew edition of Psalms, printed in Bologna a decade earlier, only included nikud in a portion of the initial quire before abandoning the practice for the remainder of the volume. Indeed, the corrector of the present edition, Jacob Baruch ben Judah Landau, refers in the colophon to the difficulties of gaining an accurate vocalization.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 26.



Lot 30

31 (BIBLE, Hebrew. Ecclesiastes). Sopher Koheleth. With commentary of Rashi. Biblical Text in square type with Nikud. Commentary in rabbinic type without Nikud. An early owner records on final page the birth of a son in 1540. The printer omitted a portion of chap. V, verses 17-18, which has been supplied in an old Italian hand: "ki hu chelko: gam kol ha-adam asher nathan lo Ha'Elo-him" (f.4v). **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY. Complete in ff. 10. Lightly stained, opening leaf remargined, few neat repairs, corners rounded. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio.** [Vinograd, Naples 2; Goff Heb-26; Thes. A-59; Offenberg 46; BMC XIII, p. 51; Iakerson 46.]

Naples, [Joseph ben Jacob Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser], 1487. \$5000-7000

From the **FIRST EDITION OF KETHUVIM IN HEBREW.** A freestanding text of Koheleth.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 33.

30 (BIBLE, Hebrew. Job). Sefer Iyov. With commentary of Ralbag' (Gersonides). Biblical text in square type with Nikud. Commentary in rabbinic type without Nikud. Initial word panel within decorative white vine metalcut border. Marginal notations in Hebrew in an early hand. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY. Complete in ff. 48. Minor marginal tears, lightly stained in places, paper tape repair at lower margin of f. 8r and f. 37, ex-library stamp on f. 1r. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio.** [Vinograd, Naples 2; Goff Heb-26; Thes. A-59; Offenberg 46; BMC XIII, p. 51; Iakerson 46.]

Naples, [Joseph ben Jacob Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser], 1487. \$12,000-18,000

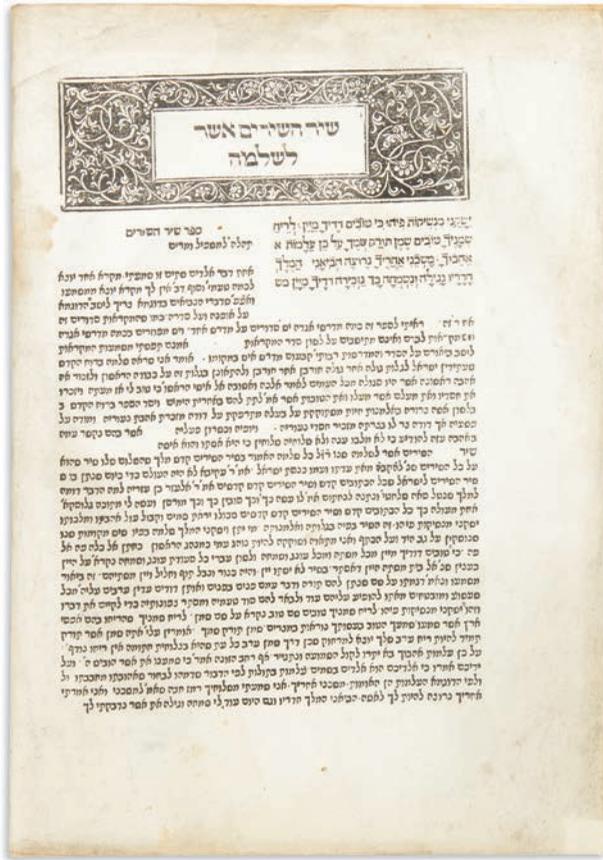
From the **FIRST EDITION OF KETHUVIM IN HEBREW.** Book of Job only, forming the first part of the final section of the Bible (Hagiographa). The third production of the first Hebrew press in Naples.

Provenance: Ex-British Museum (1889).

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 29.



Lot 31



Lot 32

32 (BIBLE), Hebrew. Five Scrolls, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah). Chamesh Megiloth [Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Ruth, Lamentations]. *AND: Daniel, Ezra, Nechemiah. With commentary of Rashi (except Lamentations which has the commentary of Joseph ben Simeon Kara). Biblical text in square type with Nikud. Commentary in rabbinic type without Nikud. Initial words panel within decorative white vine metalcut border. ff. 59 (of 62). First leaf of Ecclesiastes and final leaves of Daniel and Nehemiah expertly reproduced in facsimile. Lightly stained in places, some worming, mostly in final quire, ff. 8 and 18 strengthened at gutter and remargined, ff. 37r-38r with marginalia, minor tears repaired, ex-library stamps. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Naples 2; Goff Heb-26; Thes. A-59; Offenberg 46; BMC XIII, p. 51; Iakerson 46.]

Naples, [Joseph ben Jacob Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser], 1487. **\$8000-12,000**

FIRST EDITION OF KETHUVIM IN HEBREW.

Comprises: Song of Songs: ff. 1v-8r, f. 8v blank; Ecclesiastes: ff. 9r-18r, 18v blank; Esther: ff. 19r-23v; Ruth: ff. 24r-26v; Lamentations: ff. 27r-30v; Daniel: ff. 31r-43v; Ezra: ff. 44r-52r; Nehemiah: 52r-62r. Lacking only the Book of Job (see lot 30) and Chronicles - Psalms having been printed separately (see lot 29). These eight Biblical Books form the heart of the final section of the Hebrew Bible (Hagiographa).

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 32.

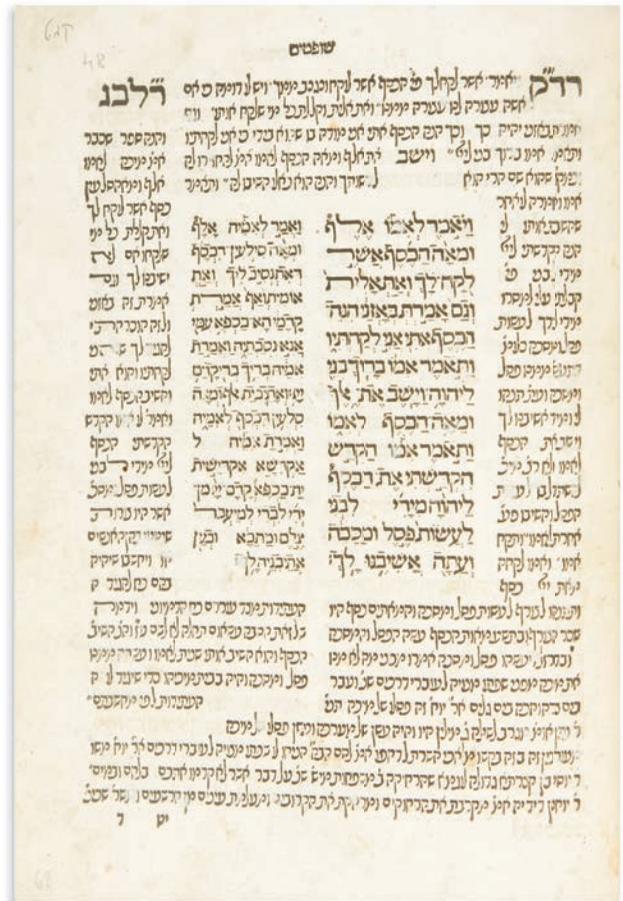
33 (BIBLE), Hebrew. Judges). Sepher Shoftim. With Targum Jonathan and commentaries by David Kimchi (Rada"K) and Levi ben Gershom (Ralba"g, Gersonides). **FIRST EDITION OF TARGUM JONATHAN AND GERSONIDES.** Texts of Bible and Targum Jonathan with vocalization (nikud) and cantillation (te'amim or "trope"). ff. 54 (of 86). Provided in facsimile: ff. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7-13, 15-6, 18, 26, 33, 38, 40-1, 46-8, 50-1, 57-9, 64, 66, 72, 74-5; wormed with loss, stained in places, expert paper repairs throughout, f. 22 with clean tear, f. 31 with loss of text along inner margin. Modern blind-tooled crushed morocco. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Leiria 6; Steinschneider, p. 4, no. 18; Goff Heb-23; Thes. B-27; Offenberg 28.]

Leiria, Dom Samuel d'Ortas and Sons, 1494. **\$6000-9000**

ONE OF THE LAST HEBREW BOOKS PRINTED BEFORE THE PORTUGUESE EXILE OF 1497.

With the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492, neighboring Portugal took its place as the center of Hebrew printing along the Iberian peninsula. Thus the fortified town of Leiria, less than a hundred miles north-east of Lisbon, now became a source of Hebrew books. Between the years 1492-96, Samuel de Ortas, a native of Orthez, France, together with his three sons, produced a total of seven Hebrew titles. But de Ortas' most celebrated feat of printing would be in Gothic letters: The Latin version of Abraham Zacuto's astronomical table, Almanach Perpetuum, which is said to have guided Christopher Columbus on his monumental voyage of discovery to the New World.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 65.



Lot 33



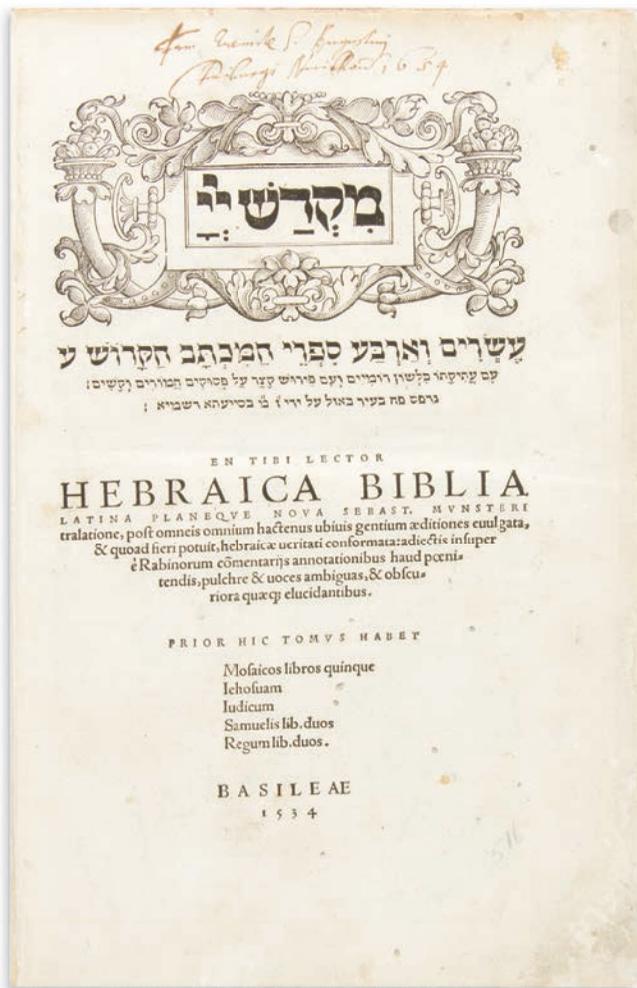
34 (BIBLE, Hebrew. Pentateuch). [Chamishah Chumshei Torah]. With Targum Onkelos and commentaries of Rashi and Nachmanides. PRINTED ON VELLUM AND PAPER. Two volumes. Text in Spanish square Hebrew type with nikud, commentaries in rabbinic type. Opening word of each Book within elegant woodcut border. The Salman Schocken copy (partially). VOL. I: Bereishith, ff. 132 (26 leaves in facsimile). * Shemoth, ff. 133-246. (i.e. 248, complete). * Vayikra, ff. 247 (i.e. 249)-330 (27 leaves on vellum, 10 leaves in facsimile). VOL. II: Bamidbar, ff. 331-419 (16 leaves on vellum, leaves in facsimile). * Devarim, ff. 420-498 (8) (13 leaves on vellum, 60 leaves in facsimile). Further collation information available upon request. *A made-up copy, mishpagnated, variously stained, expert paper repairs (some loss of text). Modern finely tooled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Salonika 13; Freimann, Pergamentdrucke ZfHB Vol. 15 no. 45 (recording just two fragments); Zedner p. 107 "only one other copy known which is on paper;" not in Darlow & Moule.]

Salonika, Yehudah Gedaliah and Abraham Alnaqua, 1520. \$12,000-18,000

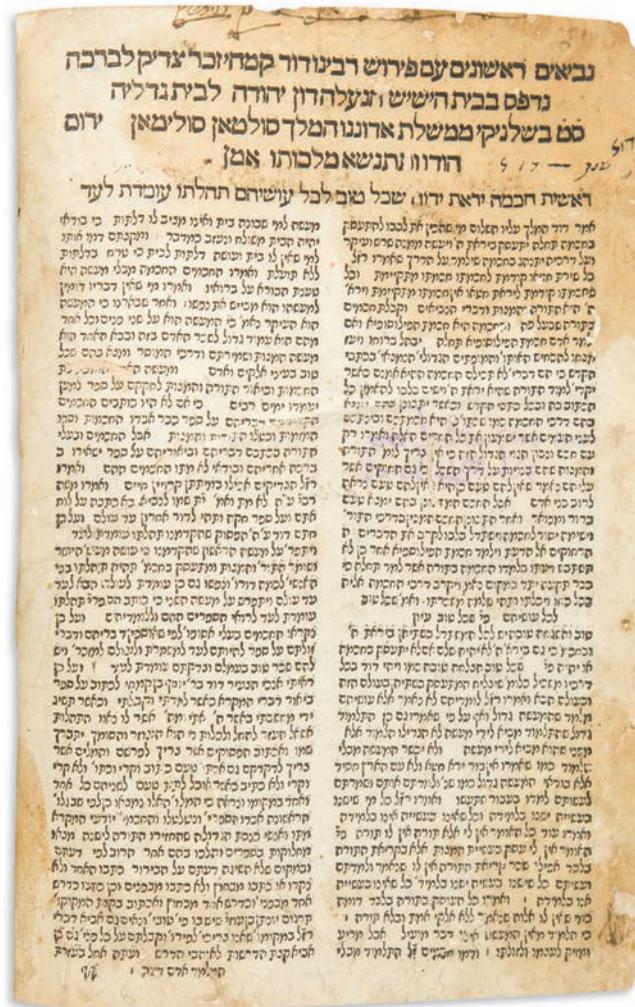
OF THE UTMOST RARITY. As the late Prof. Chimen Abramsky wrote in his description of the Schocken copy: "This edition is probably rarer than many Hebrew incunables."

ACCOMPANIED BY: An additional 27 duplicate leaves ON VELLUM; and a volume containing a further four leaves with typographical variants. According to Prof. Elazar Hurvitz, these leaves are not from the actual edition but were distributed by the printer to solicit buyers (see Hurvitz's letter accompanying the lot).

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Vellum no. 11.



Lot 35



Lot 36

35 (BIBLE, Hebrew and Latin). Mikdash Hashem Esrim Ve'Arba - Hebraica Biblia. Prepared by Sebastian Münster. Two volumes. Hebrew (vocalized) and Latin in parallel columns, with Latin notes at end of chapters. First word within woodcut frame, initial letter of each chapter historiated, divisional titles. Few marginal notations. *Vol. I: ff. (12), 365. 1. Vol. II: ff. (4), 336-795. Dampstained and wormed. Contemporary uniform vellum over thick wooden boards, recased, wormed. Folio.* [Vinograd, Basle 41; Darlow & Moule 5087.]

Basle, Bebel for Isingrin & Petrus, 1534-35. **\$3000-5000**

THE FIRST HEBREW BIBLE PRINTED IN BASLE.

Münster's outstanding effort, providing an original Latin text independent of the Vulgate. This first Protestant translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Latin exercised a considerable influence upon later Bible editions. See related article by I.I.J. Rosenthal, Sebastian Muenster's Knowledge and Use of Jewish Exegesis, in: *Essays in Honour of J.H. Hertz* (1943) pp. 351-69.

36 (BIBLE, Hebrew. Early Prophets). [Nevi'im Rishonim] With commentary by David Kimchi (RaDa'K). The Dr. Israel Mehlman copy. *ff. 158 (of 164) ff. 139-44 provided in facsimile, large portion of ff. 131-2 provided in facsimile, extensive expert repairs with occasional minor loss, lightly stained and wormed in places, previous owner's annotations. Modern crushed morocco, housed in custom slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Salonika 46; Mehlman, Genuzat Sefarim 88.]

Salonika, Don Judah Gedaliah, 1535. **\$4000-6000**

A MOST SCARCE EDITION.



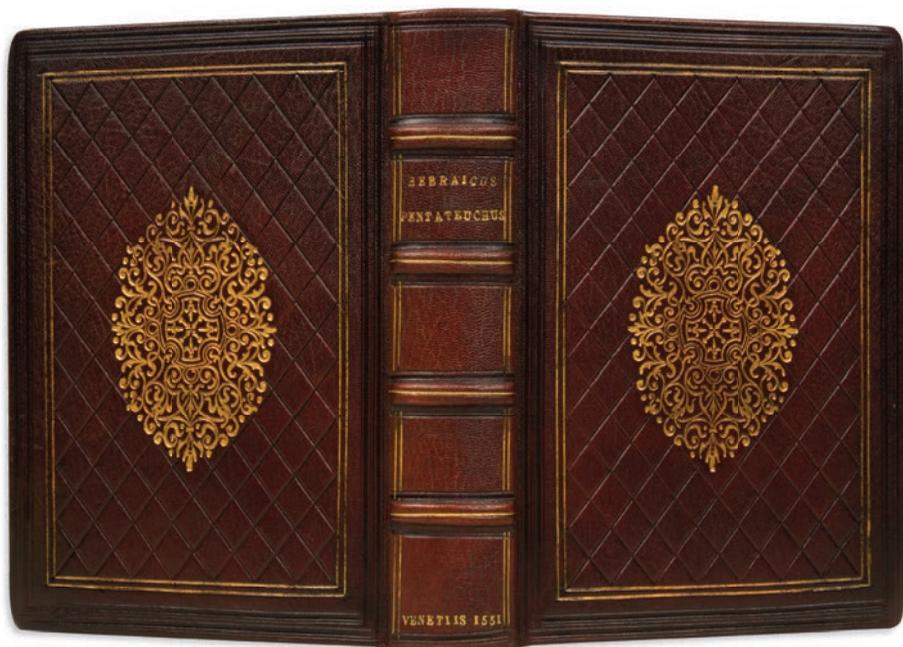
Lot 37

37 (BIBLE, Hebrew and Latin). Mikdash Hashem Esrim Ve'Arba - Hebraica Biblia. Prepared by Sebastian Münster. Second edition of the Münster Bible. Two volumes bound in one. Hebrew and Latin text in parallel columns, with Latin notes at end of chapters. First word within woodcut frame, initial letter of each chapter historiated, divisional titles. A clean copy. *Vol. I: pp. (40), 1-743. Vol. II: pp. (2), 747-1601. Opening and closing leaf lightly worn, pp. 193-4 lacking. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Thick folio.* [Vinograd, Basle 74; Darlow & Moule 5090.]

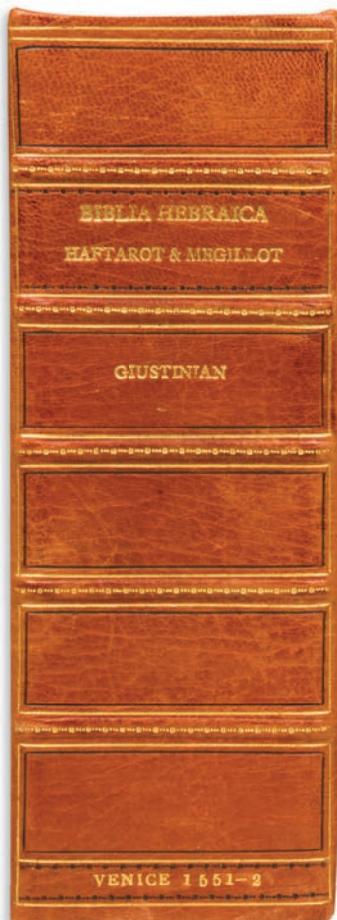
Basle, Isingrin & Petrus, 1546. **\$1200-1800**

38 (BIBLE, Hebrew and Latin). Pentateuch and Five Scrolls. Chamishah Chumashei Torah - Hebraicus Pentateu. Hebrew and Latin on facing columns, Latin notes drawn from rabbinical sources by Sebastian Münster. Title within garlanded columns. On verso of final leaf, large printer's device of Temple in Jerusalem (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks no. 17). Latin marginalia. ff. 376, (2). *Few ink stains. Modern diced morocco with elaborate central gilt lozenge on covers. 4to.* [Vinograd, Venice 419; Darlow & Moule 5094.]

Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1551. **\$1000-1500**



Lot 38



Lot 39

39 (BIBLE, Hebrew). Chamisha Chumshei Torah [-end]. Title within architectural arch. Divisional titles. ff. 369, 124. *Aside from early inscriptions, a bright copy. Later limp vellum, worn. Housed in modern crushed morocco solander-case. 4to.* [Vinograd, Venice 432 (erroneous format recorded).]

Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1551-52. **\$1500-2000**

⦿ **ACCOMPANIED BY:** Haphtaroth: ff. (46), *final leaf with printer's device provided in facsimile.* [Vinograd, Venice 415]. **BOUND WITH:** Five Scrolls: ff. 129-144, *final leaf with printer's device supplied from another copy. Fore-edges worn, some staining.* Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1551.



Lot 39

40 (BIBLE, Yiddish. Pentateuch, Haphtaroth, Megiloth). Chamishah Chumshei Torah. Yiddish text with a paraphrase of Rashi's commentary. Edited by Yehudah ben Moshe Naphtali. Printed in wayber-taytsch type. Initial words of portions within woodcut borders. ff. 160 (2), *title-page supplied in facsimile, mispaginated. Stained, several leaves remargined, stamp at end. Modern blind-tooled amber calf. Folio.* [Vinograd, Cremona 29; Benayahu, Cremona 25; see Darlow & Moule (noted not listed) following no. 4483.]

Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1560. **\$2000-3000**

⦿ **THE EARLIEST APPEARANCE OF RASHI'S COMMENTARY TO THE CHUMASH IN THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE.**

See E. Fram, *Some Preliminary Observations on the First Published Translation of Rashi's Commentary on the Pentateuch in Yiddish* (Cremona, 1560) in: *HUCA*, Vol. 86 (2015) pp. 305-42.

41 (BIBLE, Polyglot). Mishlei Shlomo - Proverbia Solomonis. Edited by Johann Drach. Interlinear arrangement of text into Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Latin and German, with grammatical and other notes. Title-page in black and red, ff. 25-26 printed in red, large woodcut of King Solomon on f. 30v, portrait of the editor opposite f.1. ff. (4), 118. *Title and closing leaves browned, stamps removed from title. Later vellum-backed marbled boards. Tall folio.* [Vinograd, Wittenberg 10; Darlow & Moule 1420 iv.]

Wittenberg, Johannes Crato, 1564. **\$500-700**

⦿ Handsome production incorporating a striking Hebrew typeface.

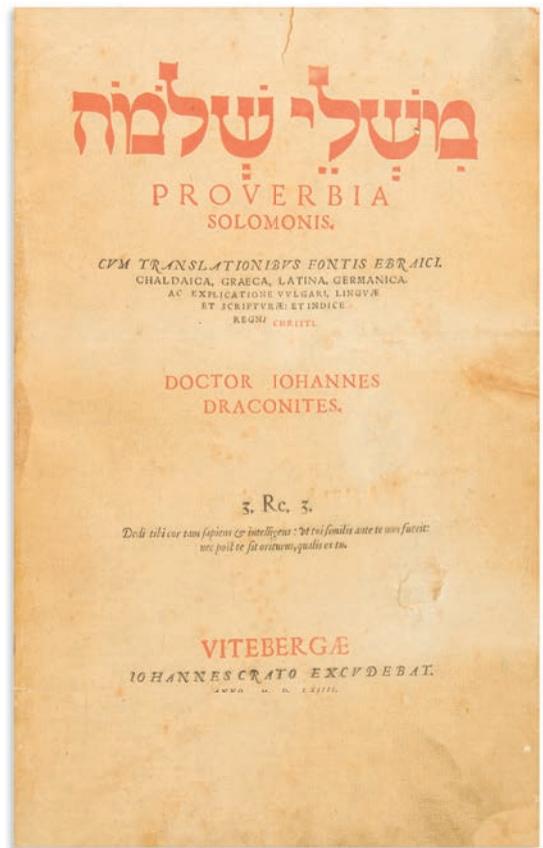


Lot 40

42 (BIBLE, Hebrew & Aramaic. Pentateuch, Haphtaroth and Five Scrolls). Torah Tziva Lanu Moshe. With Targum Onkelos on facing pages (Chumash only). With Nikud. Initial word of each Book within woodcut device. (ff. 399, 57, 3). Incomplete copy with 41 leaves supplied in facsimile (detailed collation available upon request). Expert paper repairs, variously worn and stained. Modern crushed morocco, housed in luxe solander-box. 16mo. [Vinograd, Venice 542; Habermann, di Gara 6.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1567. \$2000-3000

• An early and most scarce production from the nascent di Gara press.



Lot 41



Lot 42



Lot 43



Lot 44



Lot 45

43 (BIBLE, Hebrew, Ancient Greek and Ancient Syriac (in Hebrew characters)). Chamishah Chumshei Torah [-end] / [Novum Testamentum Graece] / Diyathika Chadata. Printed in double columns. Opening title in architectural arch. Three volumes bound in one:

* I: Unvocalized Hebrew text. pp. 389. * II: Syriac in unvocalized Hebrew characters. Issued without a title. pp. 121, (3). * III: Cursive Greek type. Issued without a title or colophon. pp. 208 (last page blank). *Stained and dampsoiled. Contemporary vellum, worn. 8vo.* [Vinograd, Antwerp 18, 19; Adams B-1233; Darlow & Moule 8951 (cf. 5102, 4638); unrecorded by Sorgeloos.]

Antwerp, Christopher Plantin, 1573. **\$800-1200**

• These three Bible editions - the Old Testament in Hebrew, with the addition of the New Testament in Greek and Syriac - were printed by Plantin in order to present the whole Bible "in the original tongues." Both the Hebrew and Syriac Bibles were printed in the same minute Hebrew type, and were edited by Plantin's son-in-law Francis Rapheleng. "If of dubious utility for converting Jews to Christianity, Syriac in Hebrew characters was obviously a boon for the Biblical scholar who had mastered three Biblical languages and was perhaps contemplating a fourth." See D.S. Berkowitz, *In Remembrance of Creation: Evolution of Art and Scholarship in the Medieval and Renaissance Bible* (1968), no.172. For a most thorough bibliographic examination of these three editions, see Mehlman nos. 1899, 1883 and 31.

44 (BIBLE, (Hebrew. Genesis). Sepher Bereishith. Title within borders depicting Roman soldiers and conquests. Annotated in Latin, extensively in places. ff. 115. Lightly browned, fore-edges of final blanks curled, ex-libris at end. Later full vellum with morocco spine labels, worn. 12mo. [Vinograd, Rome 25.]

Rome, Vittorio Eliano and Francesco Zanetti, 1578. **\$4000-6000**

• **A SCARCE EDITION** unknown to Darlow & Moule.

The city of Rome never became a center of Hebrew printing as its more northerly neighbors did, likely due to the imposing presence of the Vatican. In fact this book, as well as two other minor works put out by the same printer, were the only Hebrew books printed in Rome between the years 1548 and 1618.

45 (BIBLE, Hebrew). Chamishah Chumshei Torah [-end] Title within ornate arch, three divisional titles, initial word of each Book within wood-engraved frame. Marginalia in Greek and Latin. pp. 506 (3). Browned. Modern maroon morocco, slip-case. 4to. [Vinograd, Antwerp 26; Darlow & Moule 5104; Israel Museum Catalogue, Plantin of Antwerp (1981) pp. 99-100.]

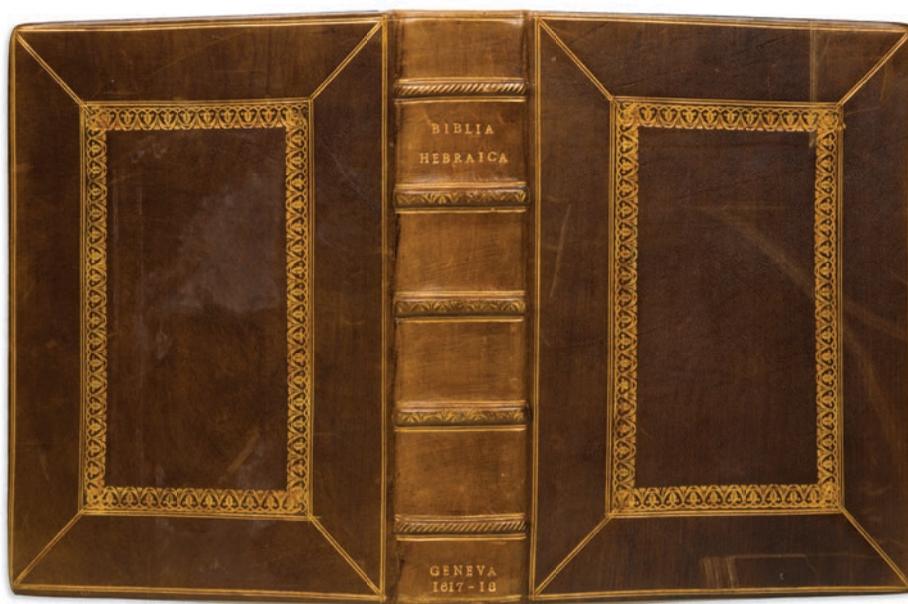
Antwerp, Christopher Plantin, 1580-2. **\$800-1200**

46 (BIBLE, Hebrew. Five Scrolls & Haphtaroth). Chamesh Megiloth - Haphtaroth mikol HaShanah. With Targum Onkelos (Targum Sheni on Esther) and Rashi. * BOUND WITH: Aaron Pesaro. Sepher Toldoth Aharon. FINELY BOUND: 17th-century calf, spine in compartments, elaborately gilt. Lacking Chumash, ff. 697-827, (1); 87. Foxed, censored in places, previous owner's marks. Solander-box. Lg. 8vo. [Vinograd, Venice 740, 767; not in Darlow & Moule.]

Venice, Asher Parenzo for Giovanni di Gara, 1590-91. **\$1000-1500**



Lot 46



Lot 47

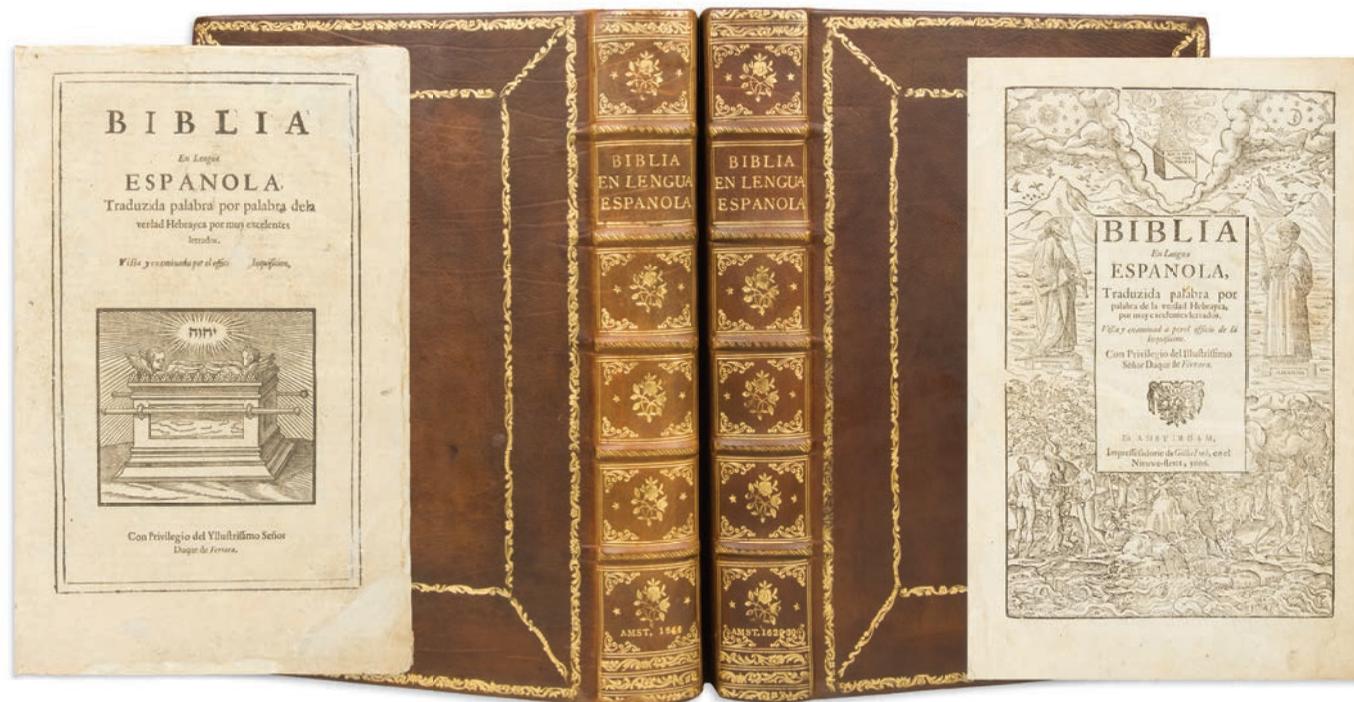
47 (**BIBLE**, Hebrew). Chamishah Chumshei Torah [-end]. Printer's device on opening title. Three divisional title pages. Title of Kethuvim surrounded by both human and chimerical figures. Initial words within woodcut historiation. Printed in double columns, with Nikud (vowel points). ff. 369, (1), 124. Foxed and stained. Modern gilt-tooled calf. Thick 4to. [Vinograd, Geneva 11; Darlow & Moule 5118.]

Geneva, Capa Elon (i.e. Pierre de La Rouvière), 1617-18. **\$700-900**

48 (**BIBLE**, Spanish). Biblia en Lengua Espanola. Traduzida palabra por palabra de la verdad Hebrayca. Woodcut of the Ark of the Covenant on title-page. Woodcut initial letters. ff. (8), 293. Browned, some staining, few marginal repairs. Modern crushed morocco, spine elaborately tooled in gilt. Folio. [Darlow & Moule 8479.]

[Amsterdam, 1629-30]. **\$3000-4000**

✪ "A revision of the Ferrara version, ascribed to Menasseh ben Israel" (Darlow & Moule 8479). Contains the Jewish version of Isaiah 7:14 "He la moca concibien."



Lot 48

Lot 52



Lot 49



Lot 50



Lot 51

49 (BIBLE, Hebrew & Aramaic. Pentateuch & Haphtaroth). Chamishah Chumshei Torah. Two parts in one volume. Title within architectural arch. Additional divisional title-page. Each page with Hebrew text and Targum translation on facing columns. ff. 255, blank, 47. Lightly browned. Later diced calf, upper cover with “J. Jackson” tooled in gilt, expertly rebacked. 4to. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 25; Fuks, Amsterdam 154; Silva Rosa 10.]

Amsterdam, Menasseh ben Israel for Henricus Laurentius, 1631. **\$1500-2000**

• This edition of the Pentateuch evidently received a very limited distribution. Despite the title-page, the Megilloth was not issued alongside it.

50 (BIBLE, Hebrew). Biblia Hebraica. Printed in double-columns (with Nikud). Title-page within architectural arch, additional Latin letterpress title, further divisional title-pages. The Chief Rabbi Nathan Marcus Adler copy with his bookplate on front pastedown. Early 19th-century inscriptions at rear concerning the binding. ff. 128 (*Pentateuch*), 124 (*Writings*), (2) (*Table of Haphtaroth*), 129-144 (*Five Scrolls*), (2), 147-254 (*Former Prophets*), (1), 256-369 (*Latter Prophets*). Opening title discolored. Later calf over thick wooden boards, expertly rebacked, rubbed, all edges gilt. Thick 4to. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 34; Fuks, Amsterdam 153; cf. Darlow & Moule 5124; Mehlman 35.]

Amsterdam, Menasseh ben Israel for J. Jansson, 1631-35. **\$1000-1500**

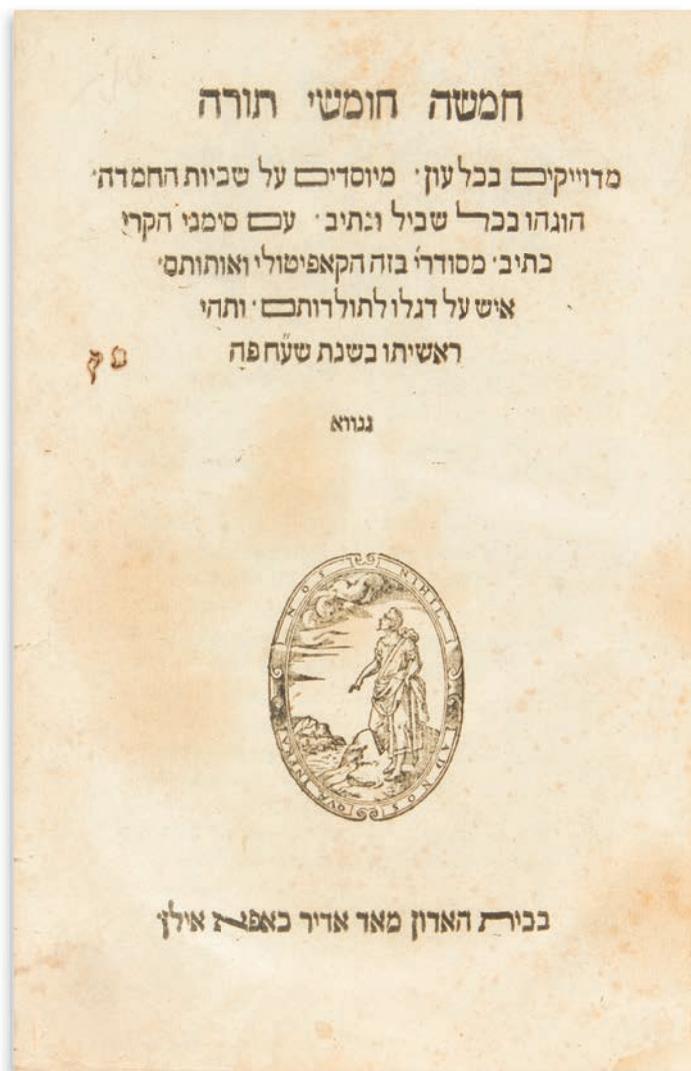
• The second, and most important edition of the Bible prepared by Menasseh ben Israel. Three variants of this edition exist (viz. Fuks); this copy is variant B: Bound with the Five Scrolls after Kethuvim and Latin imprints on the titles changed from 1631 to 1636.

See JNUL Catalogue, Treasures from the Library Ets Haim / Livraria Montezinos (1980) no. 95 (illustrated).

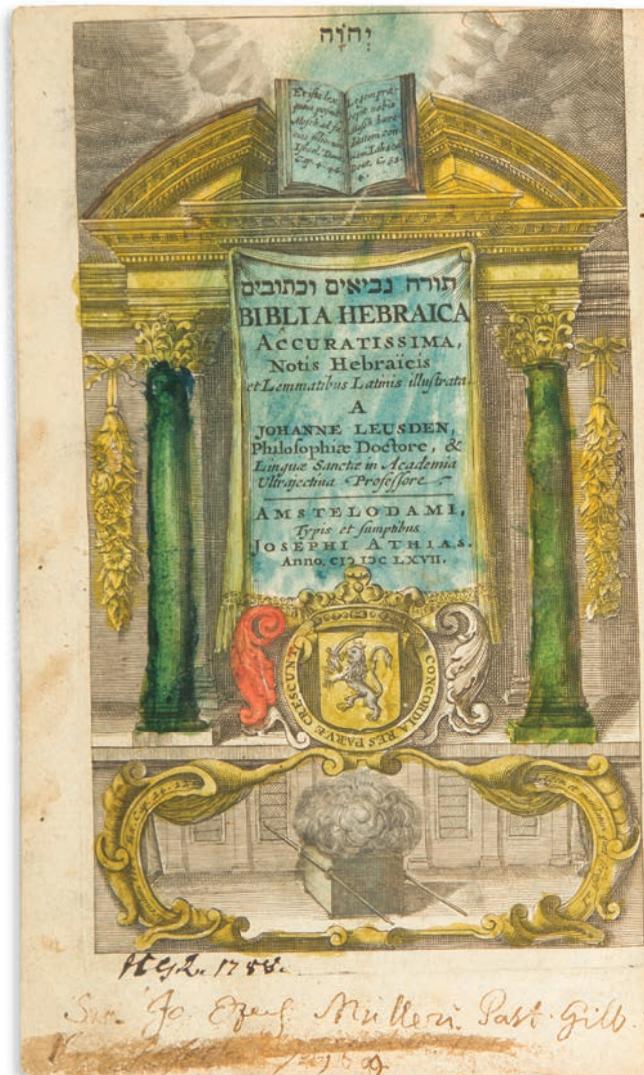
51 (BIBLE, Hebrew & Greek). Esim Ve'Arba'ah. **BOUND WITH:** Novum Testamentum. He kaine diatheke. Hebrew title within architectural arch, Latin and Greek letterpress title. ff. 112, 166, (1), 94, pp. (7); and pp. (4), 264, (4). Browned and stained, Hebrew title with signature crudely excised resulting in two small holes. Later polished calf with twin clasps and hinges, upper cover loose, gutter split. 8vo. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 45; Darlow & Moule 4684 & 5127; Silva Rosa 28.]

Amsterdam, Menasseh ben Israel for J. Jansson, 1637-39. **\$500-700**

• The third Menasseh ben Israel Bible. This copy contains the rare blank following f. 166 which according to Fuks (167) was “later cut out”. This double-columned Menasseh ben Israel Tanach was apparently preferred by the Vilna Gaon when executing his mystical Goral HaGr'a.



Lot 47



Lot 53

52 (**BIBLE**, Spanish). Biblia en Lengua Espanola. Traduzida palabra por palabra de la verdad Hebrayca. Title within elaborate historiated border by Cornelis Muller. ff. (9), pp. 605. browned, dampstained in places. Modern crushed morocco, spine elaborately tooled in gilt. Folio. [Darlow & Moule 8480.]

Amsterdam, (Menasseh ben Israel for) Gillis Joost, 5606 (sic, i.e. 5406), 1646. **\$2000-3000**

- A revision of the famed Ferrara Bible issued by Abraham Usque and here ascribed to Menasseh ben Israel. Published for the benefit of Spanish speaking Jews driven from Spain and Portugal, to facilitate their return to Judaism.

[See illustration on page 27]

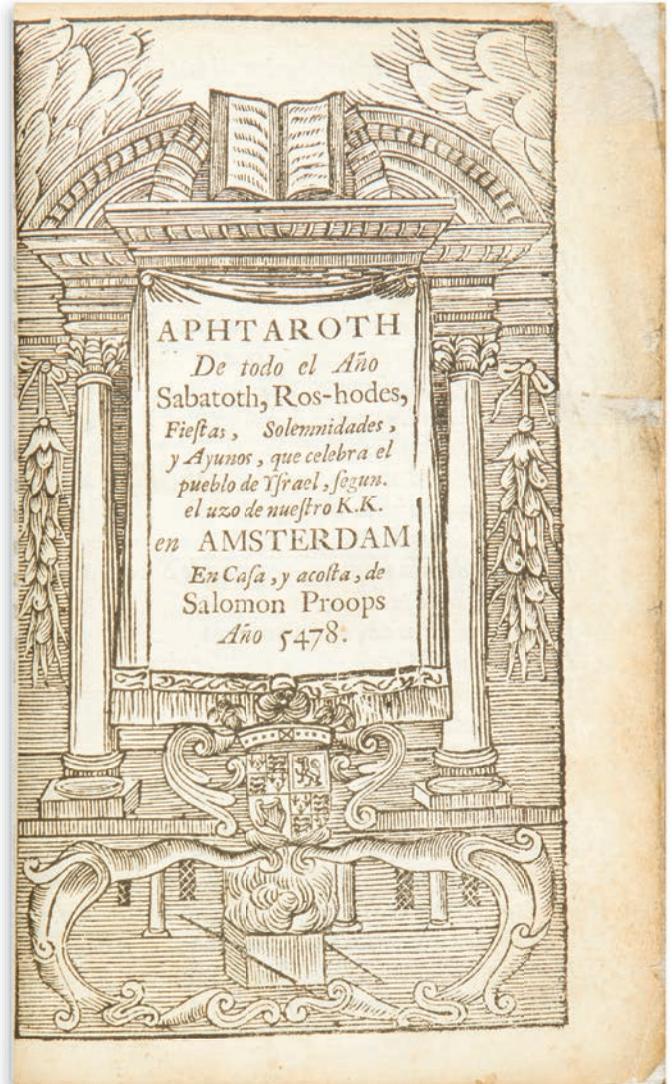
53 (**BIBLE**, Hebrew). Biblia Hebraica. Edited and with an introduction in Latin by Johannes Leusden. Text in Hebrew with Latin side-notes. Woodcut divisional title pages. Marginalia. Title-page hand colored. ff. (19), 178, 508, (2). Browned. Modern morocco-backed marbled boards. Thick 8vo. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 356; Darlow & Moule 5134.]

Amsterdam, Joseph Athias, 1667. **\$400-600**

- The first Athias Bible, widely received as a first-rate scholarly production.



Lot 54



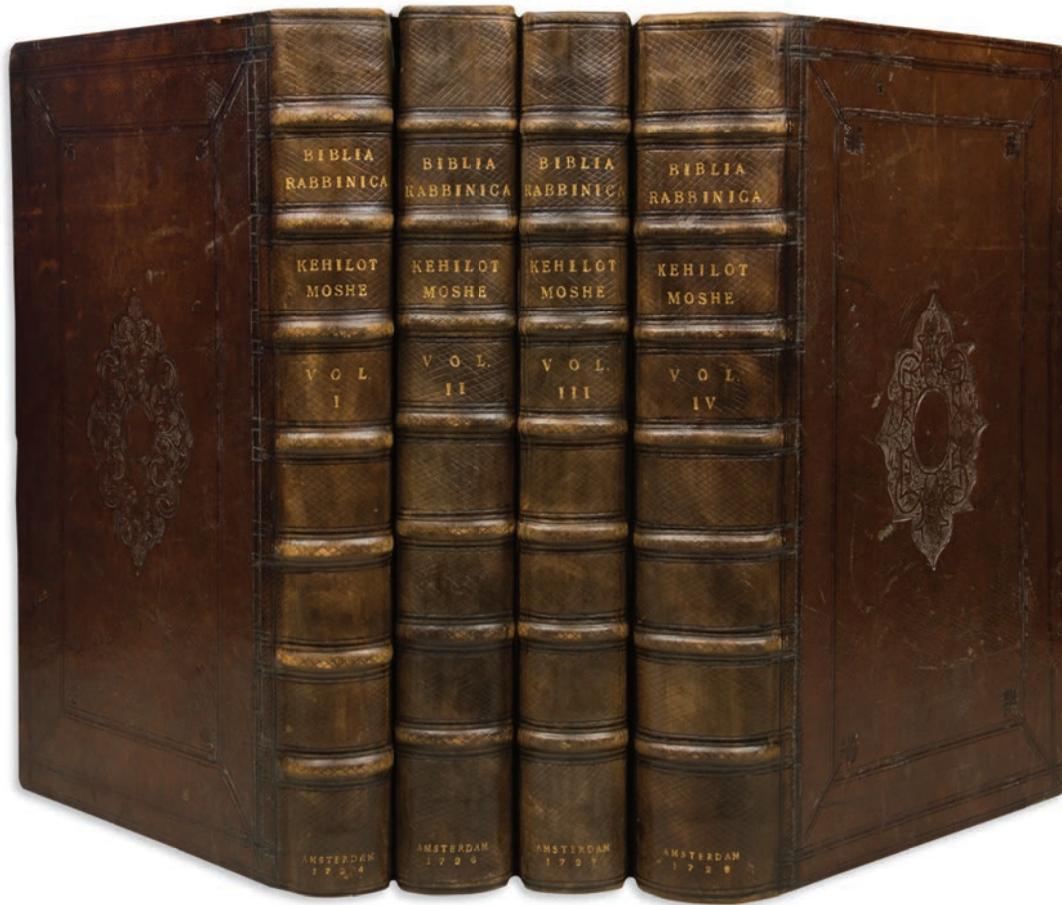
Lot 55

54 (BIBLE, Hebrew and Yiddish. Writings). Sepher HaMagid [Kethuvim]. With Rashi and translation and commentary in Yiddish. ff. 243, 63 (of 177). Heavily browned, previous owner's signatures including Avrohom ben David Wittmund. Contemporary blind-tooled calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Prague 500.]

Prague, Sons of Judah Bak, 1675. **\$300-500**

55 (BIBLE, Spanish. Pentateuch and Haphtaroth). Los Cinco Libros de la Ley Divina de Nuevo Corregidos, y Bueltos a Imprimir. Two parts in one volume. Fine engraved title depicting Moses and Aaron, the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai, and the Temple in Jerusalem. Separate title for Haphtaroth within elaborate architectural border. pp. (2), 528. Browned and closely shaved, few leaves taped at margins. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. 12mo. [Darlow & Moule 8484.]

Amsterdam, Solomon Proops, 1718. **\$600-900**



56 (BIBLE, Hebrew). Kehiloth Moshe. With numerous commentaries including Ralbag, Chizkuni, Sforno, Imrei Noam, Kometz HaMincha, Minchath Ketana, Minchath Erev, etc. **FIRST EDITION** of Kometz Hamincha, Minchah Ketana, Minchath Erev. Edited by R. Moshe Frankfurter. Complete in four volumes. **PRINTED ON FINE, REGALE PAPER;** 14 decorative woodcut initial word panels. *Minor scattered staining. Edges tinted red. Contemporary tooled diced morocco over heavy wooden boards. Clasps and catches lacking; elaborate central medallions on upper and lower boards. Elephant folio.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1242]

Amsterdam, Moses Frankfurter, 1724-27. **\$4000-6000**

• The seventh Biblia Rabbinnica. The first Rabbinic Bible to be produced solely by Jews and by far, the most elaborate and technically superior version of the Rabbinic Bible. In addition to the standard Biblical text, Kehiloth Moshe encompasses some thirty-six separate commentaries as well as the complete introductions of the various exegetes to each of their works, a feature often omitted in both earlier and later editions. Kehiloth Moshe contains sixteen previously unpublished commentaries, from the first post-medieval exegetical inclusions in a Rabbinic Bible to a host of later writers, including many of Sephardic and Levantine background. It includes numerous features such as indices to chapters of Talmudic tractates, massorah magna and parva and massoretic variations between Ben Asher and Ben Naftali.

The multiple prefaces and afterwords included by the editor as well as his proofreaders in many of the volumes detail the process of acquiring new commentaries and describe the difficulties of bringing such a massive undertaking to fruition.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY FINE COPY.



Lot 57

57 (BIBLE, Hebrew and Italian). Arba'ah Ve'esrim. Opening titles in red and black within architectural arch, three additional divisional title-pages. **FOUR SPECTACULAR ENGRAVED PLATES BY FRANCESCO GRISELINI** the first (frontispiece) depicting the Sacrifice of Isaac with eleven vignettes portraying the narrative is particularly elaborate. The three other plates are prior to the Former Prophets, Latter Prophets, and to the Hagiographa and depict Joshua and Samuel crowning King David; Isaiah, Ezekiel and Jeremiah; and King David reciting the Psalms. Introductory Luach HaMitzvoh and Kelalei HaDikduk by Simha Calimani. With glosses in Italian throughout translating and explaining challenging passages. Manuscript on vellum recording the cantillation (trop) stitched onto final blank. ff. (1), 148, (1), 108, (2), 130-348. Stained in places, opening engraved title worn with lower corner removed affecting the plate. Contemporary mottled calf with former owner's name gilt-tooled on covers, expertly rebacked with morocco inlay and gilt extra, slip-case. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Venice 1757; Braginsky Collection, cat. no. 150.]

Venice, Bragadin for Isaac Foa, 1739-41. **\$2000-3000**

A BEAUTIFUL BIBLE EDITION, FINELY BOUND.

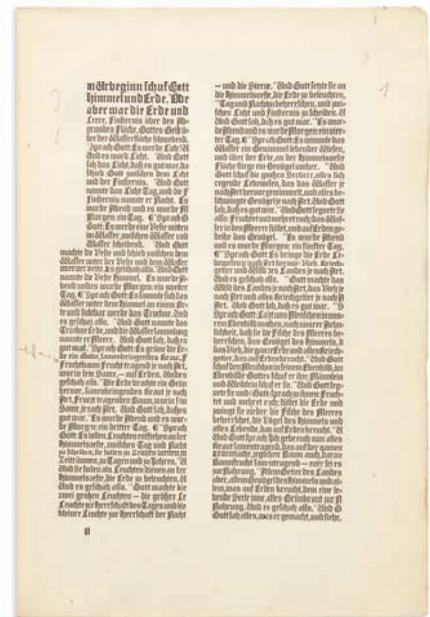
Francesco Grisellini (1717–87) was born into a family of Venetian silk-weavers and grew to be a scholar of natural history of considerable repute. He was also a talented artist; indeed Dr. Mendel Metzger in “The Earliest Engraved Italian Megilloth,” comments extensively on Grisellini’s excellence as an engraver of Jewish works of art which included the design of title-pages of Hebrew printed books as well as engraved Esther Scrolls. See also L. Greenspoon, *The Book of Esther in Modern Research* (2003) p. 147.

58 (BIBLE, German). Die Heiligen Bücher des Alten Bundes. Three volumes (all published) bound here into one. Edited by Lazarus Goldschmidt. Printed in double-columns in Gothic type. Uncut. **THE EDITOR'S COPY, WITH HIS NOTES THROUGHOUT.** pp. 201; 175; 192. Later cream morocco backed boards, slip-case. Folio.

Berlin, Erich Reiss - Rosenthal & Co., 1920-25. **\$500-700**

Bibliophilic edition of the Bible translated into German by Lazarus Goldschmidt and issued in 300 numbered copies.

THIS IS LAZARUS GOLDSCHMIDT'S OWN COPY WITH HIS EDITORIAL COMMENTS PENCILLED THROUGHOUT.



Lot 58



Lot 59



Lot 60

59 (BIBLIOPHILIA). Sefer HaHashlamah LeSeder Nezikin [novellae to Tractates Baba Kama and Baba Metzia]. **A UNIQUE COPY - PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Edited by Judah Lubetzki. Preface in Hebrew and French by R. Zadoc Kahn, Chief Rabbi of France. ff. (2) 92, 2. Gilt dentelles. Modern green morocco, spine gilt extra, slip-case. Folio.

Paris, 1885. **\$3000-4000**

UNIQUE COPY PRINTED ON VELLUM. ISSUED UPON THE ORDERS OF BARON DAVID GÜNZBURG.

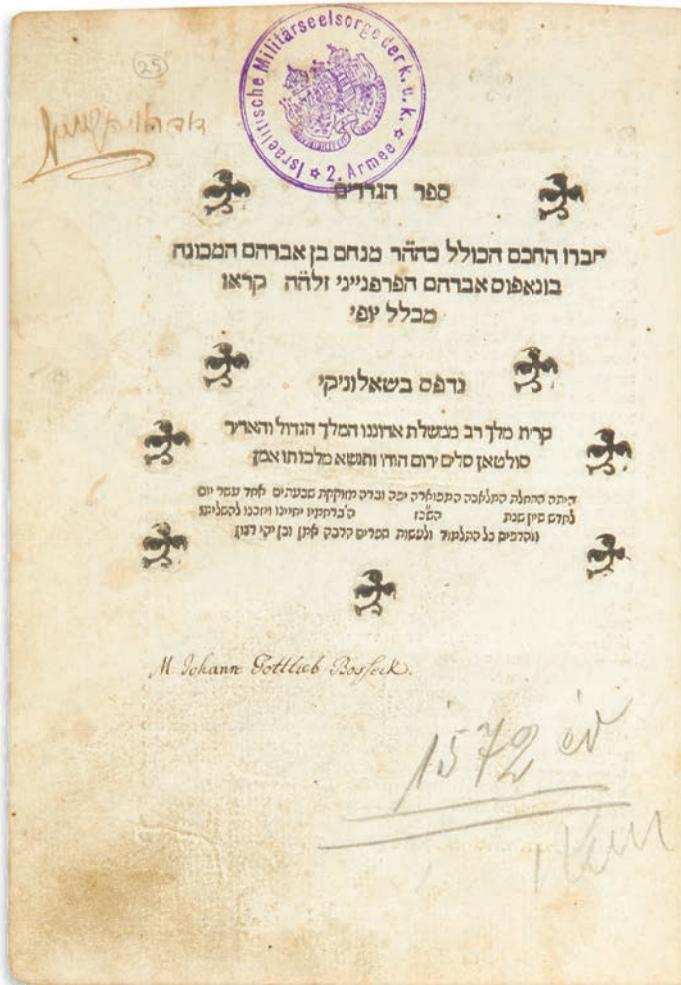
For many years, the novellae of R. Meshulam ben Moses of Beziers (1175-1250), focussing on Alfasi's commentary to the Talmud, were unknown. Upon their discovery by the scholar Judah Lubetzki in the library of Baron David Günzburg, they were promptly published.

The last two folios in this volume are culled from the regular non-vellum issue, apparently to contrast the luxuriousness of the fine vellum to that of regular paper.

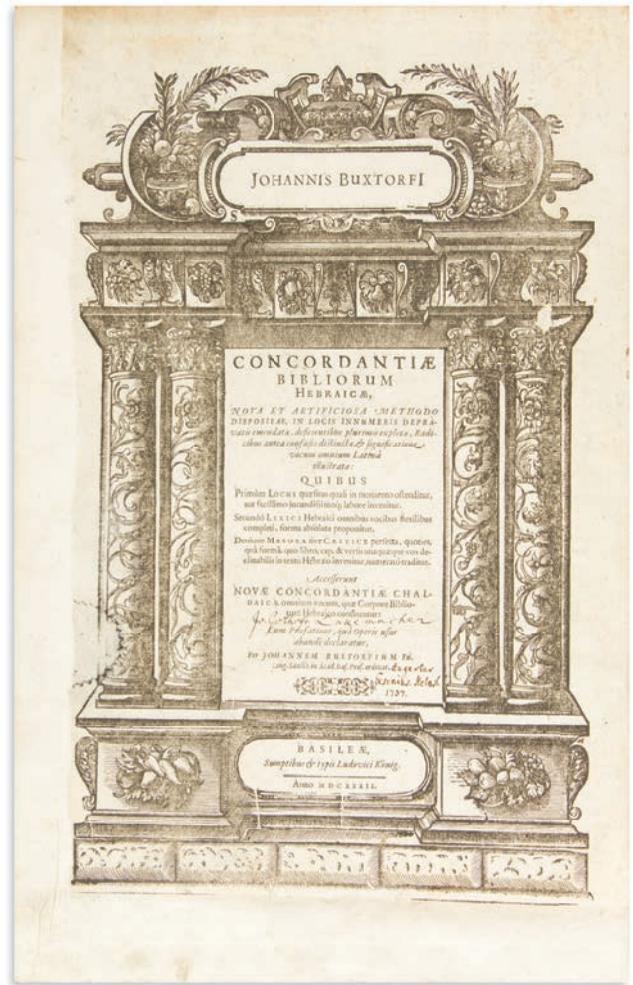
See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Vellum no. 42.

60 BOCCACCIO, GIOVANNI. Schoene Artliche Geschichten [selected stories from the Decameron] **FIRST EDITION** with Yiddish translation (printed in Wayber-taytsch type). Prepared from the Dutch by Joseph Maarsan. The Judah A. Joffe copy (Provenance: Kestenbaum, 11.25.97 lot 48). Pencil annotations throughout. ff. 36. Ex-library, lightly worn. Later cloth-backed marbled boards. 12mo. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 927; S. Zfatman, Yiddish Narrative Prose: An Annotated Bibliography (1985) no. 85].

Amsterdam, n.p., 1710. **\$500-700**



Lot 61



Lot 62

61 BONAFOS, MENACHEM. (Also called Bonafoux, Abraham of Perpignan). *Sepher HaGedarim* - *Michlal Yofi* ["Book of Definitions."] **FIRST EDITION.** With introduction and notes by Isaac ben Moses ibn Aroyo. Final section contains *Pirkei Hatzlacha* ascribed to Maimonides. Ya'avetz-style florets on title. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 50. Previous owners' marks on title-page including signature of David Halevi Horovitz, paper repairs to final leaf affecting a few letters, stained in places. Modern crushed morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Salonika 71.]

Salonika, (Solomon and Joseph Ya'avetz), 1567. **\$3000-4000**

☛ Offers precise definitions of Hebrew technical terms that appear in philosophical and scientific literature, particularly, Maimonides' *Guide of the Perplexed*. See M.J. Heller, *The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book*, pp. 590-1.

62 BUXTORF, JOHANNES. *Concordantiæ Bibliorum Hebraicæ* [Biblical concordance]. Title within architectural arch. Previous owners' signatures on title. *Two margins of title-page cut very close, stamp removed. Contemporary vellum, stained. Lg. folio.* [Prijs, Basle 234.]

Basle, Ludwig König, 1632. **\$300-500**



Lot 63



Lot 64

63 CHABIB, JACOB IBN. Ein Israel, Beth Israel (Ein Ya'akov) [anthology of Talmudic tales]. With commentary by RaSH"i, the Tosafoth, RaMba"n, RITV"n and Ra"n. Two volumes. Titles within architectural arch. *Vol. I: ff. 6, (24), 194. * Vol. II: ff. 190, 8, (22). Only a portion of title from first vol. present, title of second vol. with marginal loss, many leaves of both volumes remargined with occasional loss, stained. Second vol. slightly shorter. Uniform morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Prostejov 2; Mehlman 197.]

Prostejov (Prossnitz / Prostitz), Isaac Prostitz, 1603. **\$4000-6000**

One of the two books printed by the illustrious Isaac Prostitz in his hometown of Prostejov. The other 261 books he issued were all printed in Cracow.

Prostejov, in the province of Moravia (today the Czech Republic), was home at various times to such notables as the Mahara'm A'sh, R. Yonassan Eybeschuetz, the Chasam Sofer and the bibliographer, Moritz Steinschneider.

64 CHABIB, JACOB IBN. Ein Ya'akov [Aggadic lore]. With commentary Koheleth Shlomo. **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ON BLUE PAPER.** Formerly the London Beth Din copy. Three parts in one volume. Two titles. Printed on blue (six initial leaves on white). Signature on second title. *ff. 4, 168, 15 (1), 190. Stained, opening title remargined, several leaves with neat paper repairs with some loss, second title with outer portion supplied in facsimile. Modern calf-backed boards, Tall folio.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1528.]

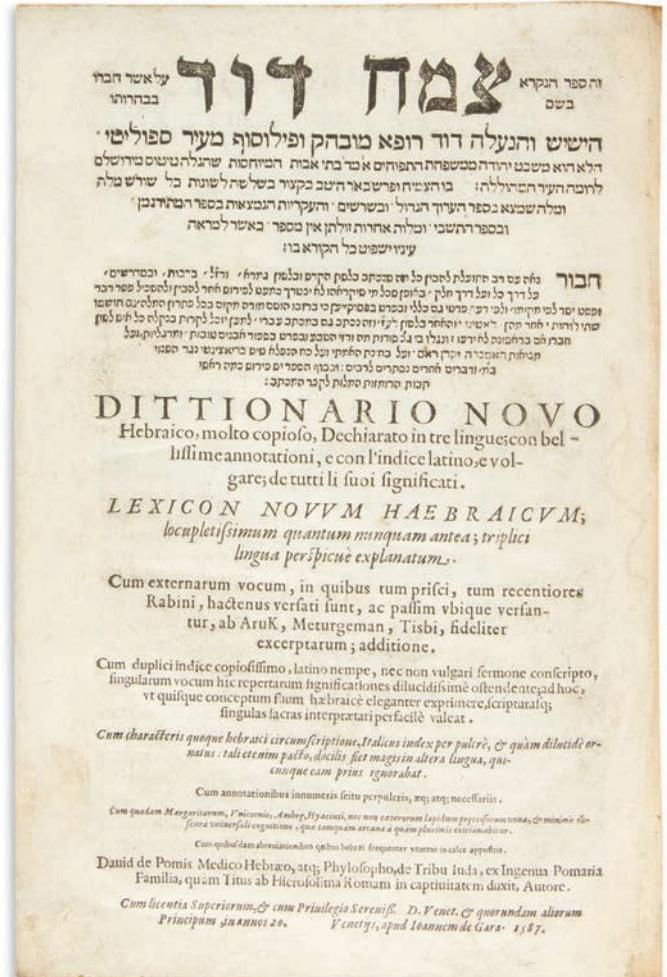
Amsterdam, Naphtali Hertz Levi the Physician, 1740. **\$1000-1500**

RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ON BLUE PAPER.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 44.



Lot 65



Lot 66

65 CHAYUT, ISAAC. Siach Yitzchak. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within historiated border. Kabbalistic diagrams throughout. ff. 20. Trimmed and foxed. Modern gilt-ruled crushed morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Prague 54; Mehlman 915.]

Prague, Mordechai Katz, 1587. **\$1500-2000**

• A series of Kabbalistic poems with commentary, all of whose themes relate to the First Nights of Passover, including instructions and laws pertaining to the Seder.

The author was a scion of a branch of the Hasidei Provence who later settled in Bohemia, where he was appointed Rabbi and Rosh Yeshiva of Prague in 1584.

The title of this rare book is tucked away at the bottom of the title-page in small rabbinic letters.

66 DE POMIS, DAVID. Tzemach David / Dittionario Novo Hebraico. **FIRST EDITION.** Arms of Pope Sixtus V on f. 2r and of the De Pomis ("Min Hatapuchim") Family on f. 5v. (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 41). ff. 5, (1), ff. 5-62, 238. Lightly stained and dampwrinkled. Later mottled calf with central gilt lozenges on covers, rebaked and recased. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 717.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1586-7. **\$600-900**

• Celebrated Hebrew, Aramaic, Latin and Italian dictionary presenting definitions from Kimchi's Shorashim, Levita's Tishbi, and Nathan ben Yechiel's Aruch; also providing numerous historical and scientific observations and discourses. Trained as a medical doctor, David de Pomis's expositions of Biblical and Talmudic terms contain a good deal of interesting medieval scientific lore.

The introduction, containing a short autobiography by the author, also recounts the remarkable history of the ancient de Pomis family, brought in chains to Italy from the Land of Israel by Emperor Titus following his siege and destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 C.E.

The work is dedicated to Pope Sixtus V, in gratitude for the restoration of the concession permitting Jewish physicians to attend to Christian patients for the years 1585-90. See C. Roth, The Jews in the Renaissance (1950) pp. 223-2.



67 DE ROSSI, AZARIAH. Me'or Einaim [philosophy of history]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within woodcut architectural border. Woodcut diagrams on f. 156 and 171. **TWO COPIES:** One with 6 extra un-numbered leaves and ending on f.194; the other copy ending on f. 188 and with text changes on ff. 81-82 and 87-88 (see below). *Stained, previous owners' marks, marginalia. Uniform modern blind-tooled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. 4to.* [Vinograd, Mantua 138.]

Mantua, n.p., 1574. **\$4000-5000**

• “The Me’or Einayim became so important that it rendered its author as one of the greatest, or perhaps the very greatest, of Jewish historians who flourished in the seventeen centuries between Josephus and Jost.” (S. Baron, Azariah de Rossi’s Attitude to Life, in: *Studies in Memory of I. Abrahams*, (1927) p.12).

Azariah de Rossi, was a member of an Italian Jewish family that traced its ancestry back to the time of Titus and the destruction of Jerusalem. His controversial Me’or Einaim questioned conventional medieval wisdom and introduced fundamental changes in chronology. De Rossi rehabilitated the works of the Jewish philosopher Philo, who had been ignored by Jewish scholars for almost 1500 years and exposed the Jossipon as an early medieval compilation based upon the works of Josephus with much falsification. In the spirit of the Renaissance, de Rossi turned to critical analysis and made use of the Apocrypha and Jewish-Hellenistic sources in his study of ancient Jewish history and texts. Most controversially, he suggested that Midrashic literature was employed as a stylistic device “to induce a good state of mind among readers,” and thus should not be understood to be literal. Such statements led the Me’or Einaim to be viewed as heresy and the work was banned by the Rabbinic authorities upon publication. Consequently De Rossi re-issued the work the same year, having changed the offending passages and adding an apologetic post-script.

See Carmilly-Weinberger, pp. 210-13; I. Mehlman, *Gnuzoth Sepharim*, (1976) pp.21-39. See also M. Silber, *America in Hebrew Literature in: Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, Vol. XXII.*

THE PRESENT LOT CONTAINS BOTH ISSUES OF THE ME’OR EINAIM: The original first edition with the full unexpurgated text; and the second issue with the author’s alterations, seeking to allay public objection.



68 DELMEDIGO, JOSEPH SOLOMON OF CRETE. Sefher Mayan Ganim - Sefher Eilim - Mayan Chathum. **FIRST EDITION.** Three Parts in one, two titles. Numerous astronomical and mathematical illustrations. **ENGRAVED FRONTISPIECE PORTRAIT OF THE AUTHOR** (tipped in from another copy) engraved by W. Delff after a painting by C. Duyster. Titles within typographical border. With the scarce additional introductory leaf in Latin. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** (8), 190; 80; (2), 83. *Portrait laid down with minor loss to caption, few light stains, Russian inscription on final page. Modern vellum with morocco spine-label and twin silk ties. 4to.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 20; Fuks, Amsterdam 150-1; Silva Rosa 6.]

Amsterdam, Menasseh ben Israel, 1628-29. **\$10,000-15,000**

• **A FINE WIDE-MARGINED COPY OF ONE OF THE GREAT SCIENTIFIC BOOKS OF HEBREW LITERATURE.**

Includes treatises relating to geometry, algebra, chemistry, astronomy, physics, medicine and metaphysics.

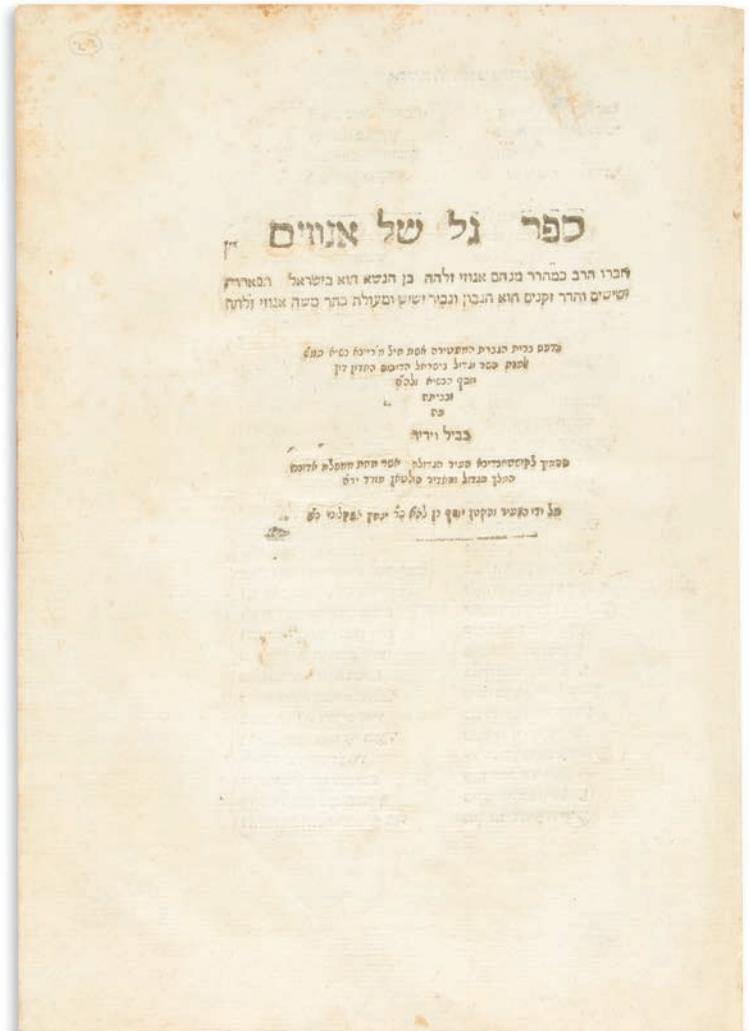
The Sefher Eilim has been described as: "The most sumptuously illustrated of early scientific works in Hebrew, and unique in printed Hebrew literature before the modern period." National Library of Canada Catalogue, The Jacob H. Lowy Collection, 1981, no. 80.

The author, Joseph Solomon Delmedigo, or as he is known in Hebrew, YaSha"R (Yosef Shelomo Rophe) of Candia (1591-1655), was of German descent, whose family settled on the isle of Crete (Candia) at the end of the 14th-century. In his youth, he studied medicine at the University of Padua. Delmedigo was most peripatetic, at various times he lived in Cairo, Vilna and Amsterdam and is buried in the old Jewish cemetery of Prague.

See I. Barzilay, Yoseph Shlomo Delmedigo (Yashar of Candia): His Life, Works and Times (Leiden, 1974); A. Neher, Jewish Thought and the Scientific Revolution of the Sixteenth Century (1986), pp. 251-2; H. Friedenwald, Jewish Luminaries in Medical History-Catalogue (1946), p.111.



Lot 69



Lot 70

69 DURAN, SHIMON BEN TZEMACH. Sepher HaTaSHBe”TZ [responsa]. Appended: “Chut HaMeshulash” [responsa by later Algerian authorities: Solomon Duran, Solomon Serour and Abraham ibn Tawah] **FIRST EDITION.** Four parts in one volume. Opening title within ornamental woodcut featuring lions, foliage and crown. Divisional titles. ff. (12), 91; (1), 69, (1); 68, (1); (1), 36, (2), 39-83, (1), 85-101, (1). *Ex-library, lightly browned. Modern half-calf over marbled boards. Folio.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1490.]

Amsterdam, Naphtali Herz Levi Rophé, 1738. **\$400-600**

♣ In 1391, R. Shimon b. Zemach (1361-1444) fled his native Spain (Isle of Majorca) for Algiers, where he became one of the foremost halachic decisors of North African Jewry.

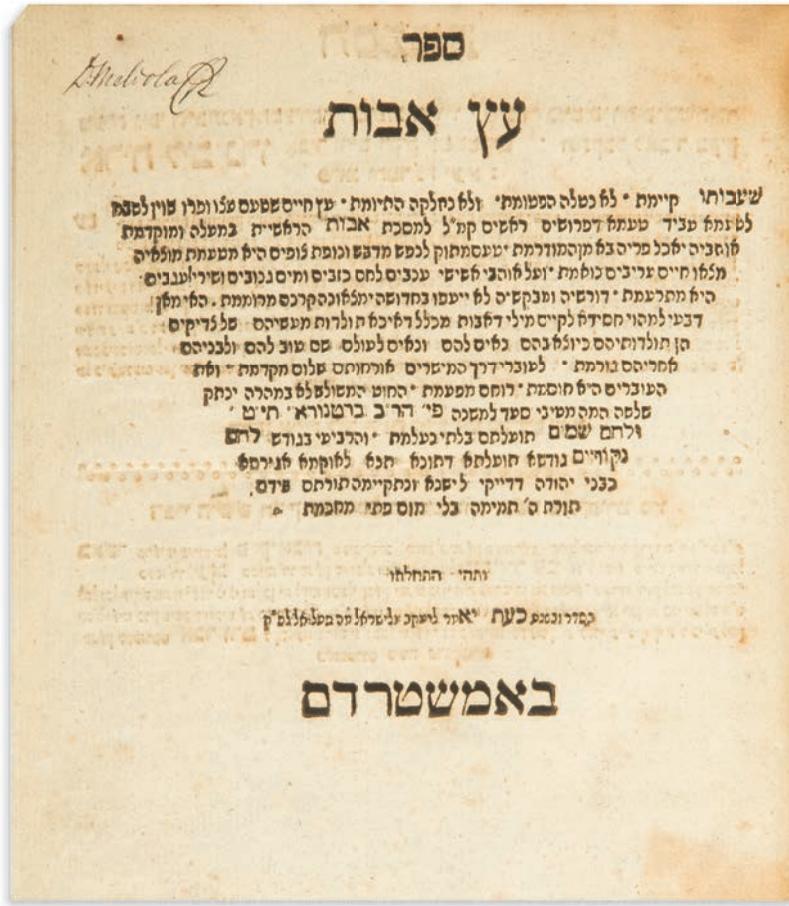
70 EGOZI, MENACHEM. Gal shel Egozim [expositions on the Book of Genesis]. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. (62). *Lightly stained in places, natural paper faults, f. 29 remargined. Modern morocco. Sm. folio.* [Vinograd, Const. 306.]

Belvedere, Constantinople, Joseph Ascaloni for Dona Reyna, Duchess of Naxos, (c.1593-95). **\$4000-6000**

♣ Following the death in 1593 of the Constantinople-based Hebrew printer Solomon Jabez, Dona Reyna, widow of the illustrious Don Joseph Nasi, and daughter of Dona Gracia, had much of her wealth expropriated from her. However, the remaining inheritance was used to establish a printing-press in her Palace of Belvedere in nearby Orta-Koy. For reasons unclear, the press was soon transferred to Kuru-Cesme, another suburb of Constantinople. Thus, “the noble lady of noble lineage” became the first Jewish woman to establish a printing-press. Menachem Egozi, the Turkish Talmudist and author of this work also served as an editor for the press at Belvedere. See: C. Roth, *The House of Nasi-The Duke of Naxos* (1948) pp. 217-19.



Lot 71



Lot 72

71 ELEAZAR BEN JUDAH OF WORMS. Sepher HaRoke'ach [ethics, rabbinic law and customs] **DELUXE, WIDE MARGINED COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Signatures on title including Dovid ben Shimshon Katz. ff. (4), 91, (1). Foxed, some wear, upper margins repaired, some worming, few leaves laid to size, title laid down. Modern blind-tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Cremona 14.]

Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1557. **\$3000-5000**

⚠️ **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

According to Benayahu (HaDefus Ha'ivi BeCremona p. 192) only the Bodleian and Schocken copies exist on blue paper.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 10.

72 EMDEN, JACOB. Eitz Avoth [commentary to Ethics of the Fathers, with text] **FIRST EDITION.** Signature of D. Meldola on title-page. ff. 82. Lightly browned. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. 4to. [Vinograd, Altona 51; Raphael, Aresheth III no. 7.]

Amsterdam, (i.e. Altona), By the Author, 1751. **\$1500-2000**

⚠️ Besides providing the earlier commentaries of Bartenura and Tosphoth Yom Tov, R. Jacob Emden includes here two original commentaries: Lechem Nikudim, dealing with grammatical and linguistic issues; and Lechem Shamayim, of a conceptual nature. The book was published with the Haskamah of the author's brother-in-law, R. Aryeh Leib of Amsterdam.

Includes polemic against Zalman Hena's Beth Tephilah - Luach Eresh, demonstrating that Hena did not properly vocalize Pirkei Avoth (ff. 75v.-82v).



Lot 73



Lot 74

73 FIGO, MOSES. Zichron Torath Moshe [indices to Talmud, Midrash, etc.] **FIRST EDITION.** Title within elegant woodcut foliate border. ff. (174). Variously stained, title worn and extended to size, final several leaves repaired with some loss, fore-edges worn, purchase inscription on title. Modern morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Const. 206.]

Constantinople, Moses Parnes, 1553. **\$1000-1500**

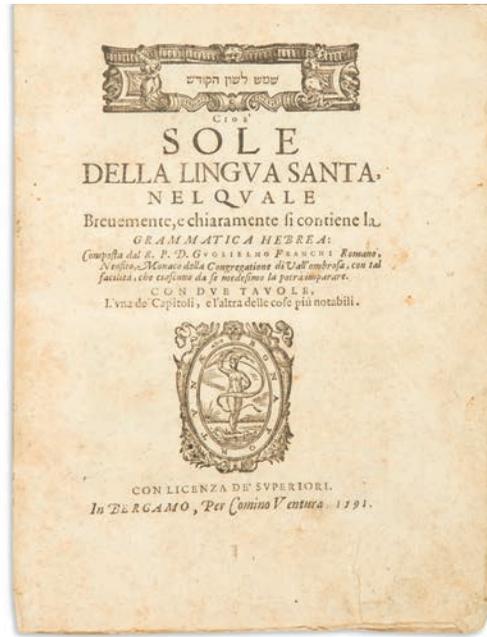
⚠ Important alphabetical subject index of the Talmud including citations to Moreh Nevuchim, Akeidah, Ikkarim, Derech Emunah, Neveh Shalom, Or Hashem and Derashoth HaRa'n. - Zichron Torath Moshe lends significance to the history of scholarship of the 16th century, indicating as it does, those works considered at the time to be worthy of study.

74 FIGO, MOSES. Zichron Torath Moshe [indices to Talmud, Midrash, etc.] **Second edition.** Title within architectural arch. ff. 128, 45. Browned and stained, title repaired with small marginal replacement. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Prague 304.]

Prague, Abraham b. Shimon (Heide), 1623. **\$500-700**



Lot 75



Lot 76

75 FLORENTIN, SOLOMON. Doresh Mishpat [index to Tur Choshen Mishpat and its commentators]. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 37. Modern boards. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Salonika 192.]

Salonika, Abraham Hager, 1655. **\$500-700**

• The Florentin family of Salonika produced some of the most prominent Rabbis and scholars of 16th-17th century Greece.

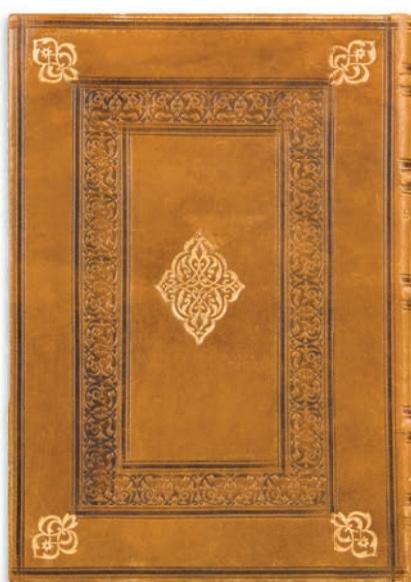
76 FRANCHI, GUGLIELMO. Shemesh Lashon HaKodesh - Sole della Lingua Santa. Two folding grammatical charts. An uncut copy. ff. 415. Foxed and stained. Later limp boards, modern slip-case. 4to.

Bergamo, Comino Ventura, 1591. **\$500-700**

• This work represents the first appearance of Hebrew printing in this ancient walled city located in Lombardy, Northern Italy. This edition unknown to M. Rosenfeld in his Gazetteer of Hebrew Printing (1992) who records only a later, 1603 edition (see no. 30).

77 GIKATILLA, JOSEPH. Sha'arei Orah [kabbalah]. **FIRST EDITION.** Initial letters of title within decorative vignettes, initial word of text within historiated woodcut frame. Occasional marginalia. ff. 84. Trimmed, discolored, few light stains. Modern paneled morocco decorated in the blind and with gilt lozenges. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Riva 34.]

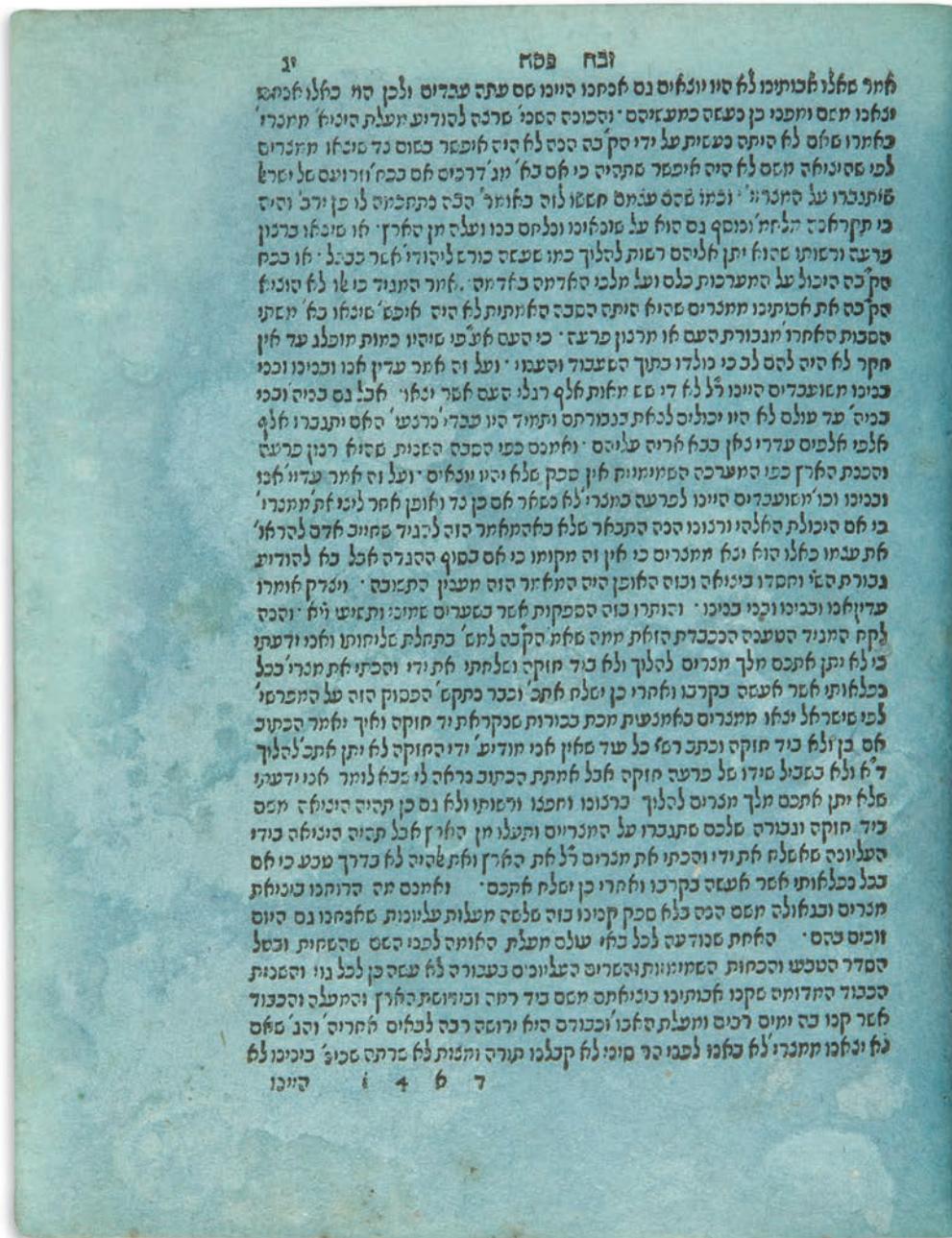
Riva di Trento, (Jacob Marcaria the Physician), 1559-61. **\$1000-1500**



• Joseph Gikatilla (Chiquatilla) (1248-c.1325) was a disciple of the founder of the School of "Prophetic Kabbalah," Abraham Abulafia, and close colleague of Moses de Leon of Guadalajara.

Throughout the centuries, Sha'arei Orah, has been regarded as a first-rate guide to the systematic presentation of the "Sephiroth" (Divine emanations) and their code names. The work has subsequently been translated into European languages.

Lot 77



78 (HAGADAH). Sepher Zevach Pesach. With commentary by Isaac Abarbanel. DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER. ff. 64. Tile-page provided in facsimile, f. 47 torn, few neat repairs, leaves with natural paper faults (see below). Modern blind-tooled morocco over thick wooden boards. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. 4to. [Yudlov, 19; Yaari, 17; Yerushalmi, pl. 21.]

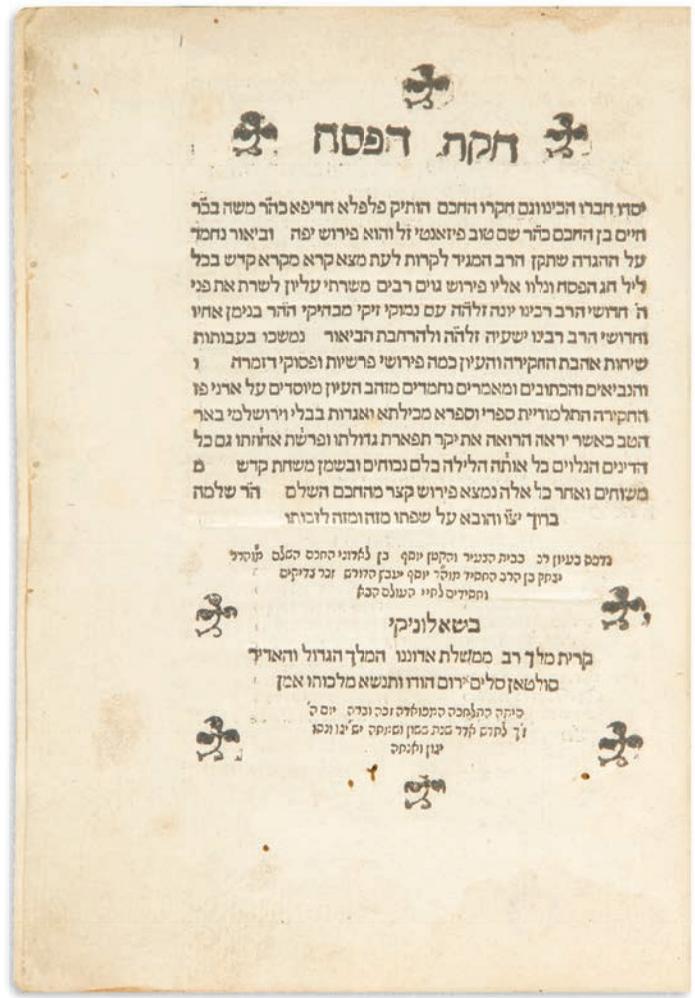
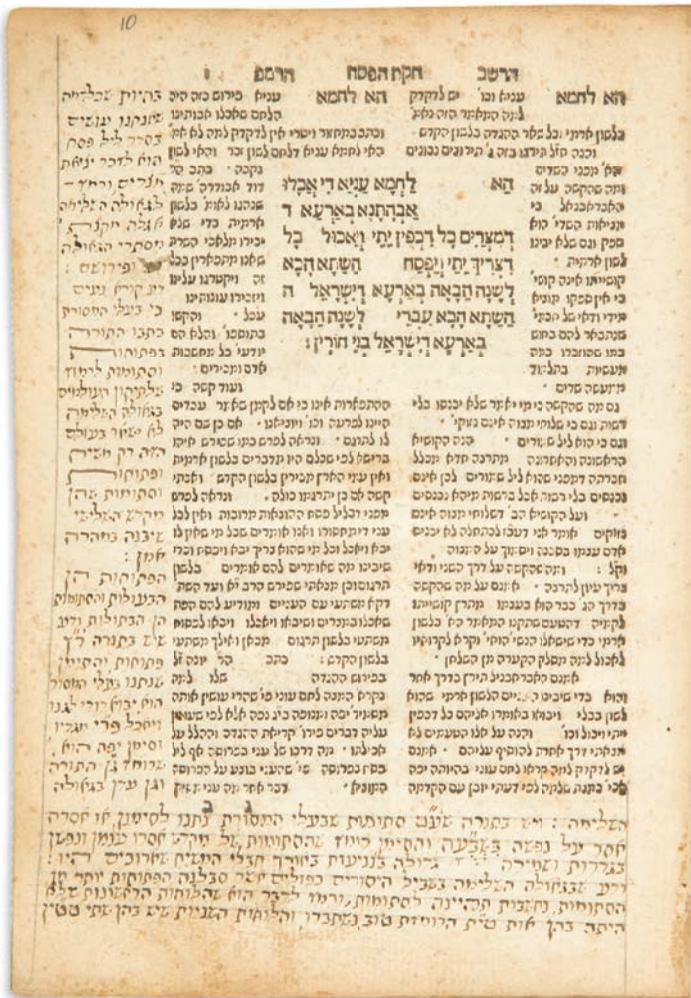
Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1557. \$5000-7000

⚠️ RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.

Tipped into the volume is a note from the Librarian of the Valmadonna Trust recounting that The British Library's Dr. Peter Lawson observed the "blotching" on the pages of this blue-paper copy was due to a chemical reaction to the dying process and that the printing occurred thereafter.

Soon after this Hagadah was printed the Church-sponsored burning of the Talmud occurred in Cremona and Vicenzo Conti's Hebrew press was destroyed.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 11.



79 (HAGADAH). Chukath HaPesach. With commentaries (see below). **FIRST EDITION.** Ya'avetz florets on title. Instructions in Judeo-Español. **THE SALMAN SCHOCKEN COPY** with his stamps. With an **EXTENSIVE MANUSCRIPT MARGINAL SUPER-COMMENTARY** throughout in a clear Italian hand by Zechariah David Shabthai Segre dated 1853-54 (signature on ff. 3a, 27a, 68a etc). Plus scattered marginalia in another hand. ff. 71 (1). *Browned and stained in places. Modern blind-tooled morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Salonika 83; Ya'ari, 22; Yudlov, 27; Yerushalmi, pl. 32.]

Salonika, Joseph ben Isaac Ya'avetz, 1569. **\$15,000-20,000**

• **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY OF AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE EDITION.**

The author was a self-appointed emissary from Safed who traveled through the Balkans, publishing in Constantinople in 1567 two works: Ner Mitzvah, a commentary on ibn Gabirol's Azharoth for Shavu'oth, the other, Yesha Elo-him, an exposition on the Hoshanoth. He was killed in 1573 by Turkish brigands near the Greek city of Arta. (See Ya'ari, Shluchei Eretz Israel (1977) pp. 236, 889; EJ, Vol. XIII, col. 328).

Two commentaries wrap around the text of this Hagadah: RaMa" P (R. Moses Pesante) and RaShA" B (R. Solomon Baruch, Pesante's co-author). Pesante makes extensive use of the medieval commentaries of Rabbeinu Isaiah and of the two brothers R. Zedekiah and R. Benjamin Anav found in Shibolet HaLeKet. See M.M. Kasher, Hagadah Sheleimah (1955) pp. 208-9, no. 68; S.K. Mirsky, Shibolet HaLeKet HaShalem (1966) pp. 46-8.

This copy contains an additional commentary composed by a member of the Segre family of Italian scholars. This apparently **UNPUBLISHED COMMENTARY** was written while the author was imprisoned in the Italian town of Vernilli in the province of Avelino (f. 27b). He states, "I have been punished to spend my life in a filthy prison..." (f. 17a), a place from which he prays he will be redeemed (f. 3a). Many of his comments pertain to the redemption, see header (f. 8b) entitled "Seder Kadesh LeGe'ulath HaMoshiach." He cites Zohar, Midrash, the Chida and another of his own works entitled Zer-Zahav (f. 53a).



80 (HAGADAH). Hagadah shel Pesach. With commentary by R. Joseph of Padua. Title within architectural arch. Each page within ornamental border, vertical woodcuts in margins with elongated cuts below. Borders decorated with ornamental design and numerous woodcuts. Order of Service in Judeo-Italian, Ladino and Yiddish in parallel columns on f.2v. Printer's device on f.3v. ff. 20 (of 22), final two leaves (Grace after Meals) provided in facsimile. Stained in places, trimmed, marginal paper repairs. Later calf elaborately tooled in gilt, worn. 4to. [Yudlov 35; Yaari 27; Yerushalmi 34-37.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1599. **\$10,000-15,000**

• **THE FIRST ILLUSTRATED VENETIAN HAGADAH. AN EXCEPTIONALLY SCARCE AND IMPORTANT EDITION.**

According to Yudlov the final two leaves might not have been originally issued with this Hagadah, but in fact printed elsewhere by Zanetti. Yudlov also notes the existence of variations among copies of this important Hagadah (see here ff. 8, 13, 16).



81 (HAGADAH). Hagadah shel Pesach. With commentary by R. Joseph of Padua. Each page within elaborate woodcut illustrated and textual borders. Preliminary page with Order of the Seder service in three languages: Judeo-Italian, Yiddish and Ladino, (reflective of the languages spoken in the Venetian Ghetto at the time). Vivid illustrations throughout. ff. (34). Several leaves expertly laid to size (small marginal portions provided in facsimile viz. ff. 1, 4, 10), trimmed, few light stains. Modern calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. 4to. [Yudlov 370; Yaari 29.]

Venice, Daniel Zanetti, 1601. **\$15,000-20,000**

• The four Hagadahs printed in Venice between 1599-1604 are of considerable historic importance as transitional experiments between the Mantua Hagadahs of 1560 and 1568 and the definitive Venetian editions of 1609 and 1629.

The present dramatic Hagadah is the first to bear a title-page embellished with woodcut illustrations. The type is also larger and bolder than the 1599 edition (see previous lot). Of note is the varied applications of the illustrations that were used differently in each of these two Venetian editions. See Yerushalmi, *Haggadah and History*, plates 34-40.



Lot 82

82 (HAGADAH). Hagadah shel Pesach. With commentary by Isaac Abrabanel. Additional engraved title depicting draped archway flanked by Moses and Aaron beneath vignette of Moses before the Burning Bush. Numerous engraved copper-plate illustrations within the text. Complete with **FOLDING ENGRAVED HEBREW MAP OF THE HOLY LAND** indicating the travels in the wilderness and the division of the Land among the Tribes of Israel. All accomplished by the proselyte Abram ben Jacob. Concluding Aschkenazic hymns provided with Judeo-German translations. ff. (1), 26, (1). *Map laid in. Touch worn and lightly soiled, marginal paper repairs, new endpapers. Original mottled calf, with gilt-tooled device containing Hebrew title on covers, rubbed, expertly rebaked. Folio.* [Yudlov 93; Yaari 59; Yerushalmi 59-62.]

Amsterdam, Asher Anshel & Partners, 1695. **\$8000-10,000**

• **THE FIRST ILLUSTRATED AMSTERDAM HAGADAH.**

This is the first Hagadah (and one of the first Hebrew books) to contain copper-engraved illustrations. It also contains a fine folding map of the Land of Israel, one of the very earliest to be captioned in Hebrew.

The first of two variants (see next lot).

83 (HAGADAH). Hagadah shel Pesach. With commentary by Isaac Abrabanel. Additional engraved title depicting large figures of Moses and Aaron beneath six circular vignettes of Biblical themes. Numerous engraved copper-plate illustrations within the text. Complete with **FOLDING ENGRAVED HEBREW MAP OF THE HOLY LAND** indicating the travels in the wilderness and the division of the Land among the Tribes of Israel. All accomplished by the proselyte Abram ben Jacob. Concluding Aschkenazic hymns provided with Judeo-German translations. ff. (1), 26, (1). *Variouly stained. Original mottled calf, with blind-tooled device containing Hebrew title on covers, expertly rebaked. Folio.* [Yudlov 93; Yaari 59; Yerushalmi 59-62.]

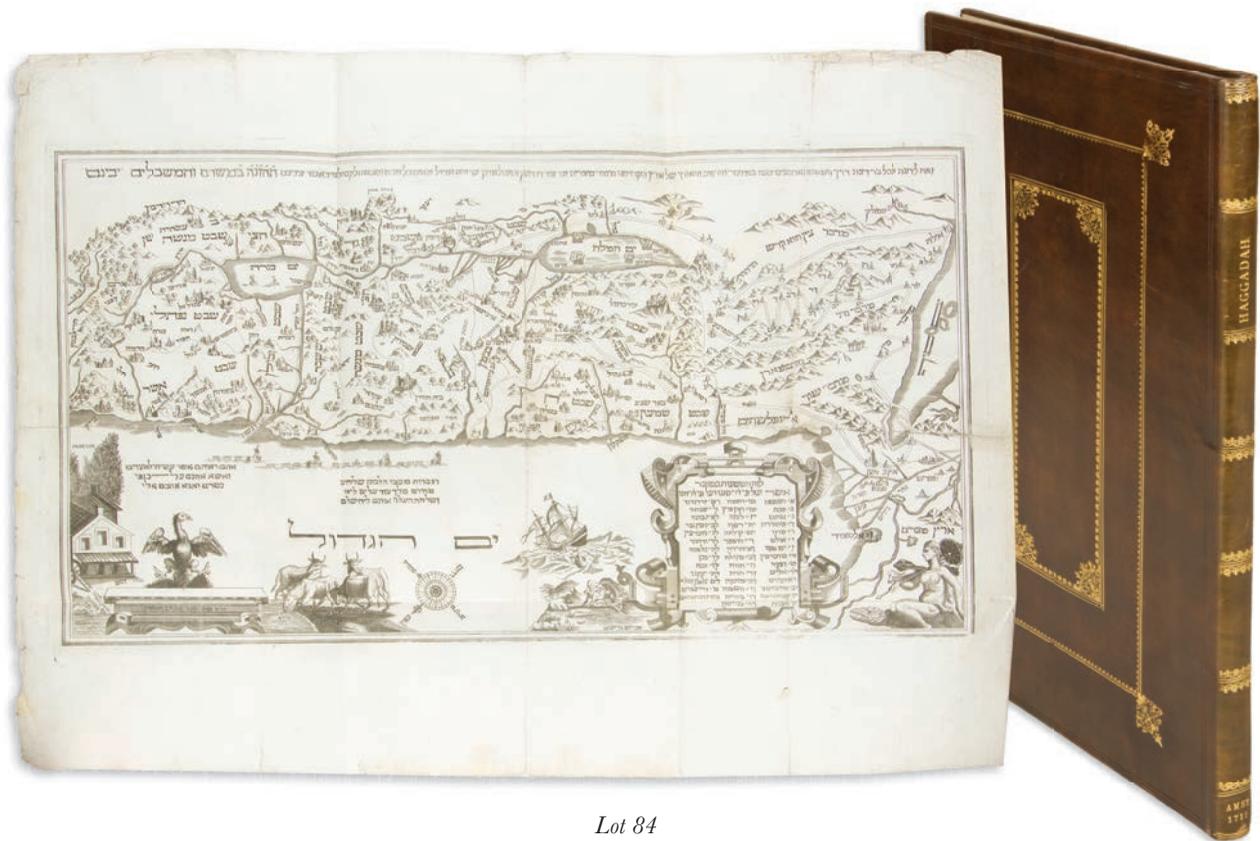
Amsterdam, Asher Anshel & Partners, 1695. **\$8000-10,000**

• **THE FIRST ILLUSTRATED AMSTERDAM HAGADAH.**

The second of two variants: The printer issued two versions of the engraved title-page.



Lot 83



Lot 84

84 (HAGADAH). Hagadah shel Pesach. With commentary by Isaac Abrabanel and “Bi’urim” (synopses of commentaries of Ma’aseh Hashem, Mateh Aharon and Chevel B’nei Yehudah). Instructions in both Judeo-Español and Judeo-German. Letterpress title and additional engraved title depicting Moses and Aaron beneath vignette of Moses and the Burning Bush. 16 copper-plate engravings throughout the text. **WIDE-MARGINED FOLDING MAP OF THE HOLY LAND.** This copy with strong impressions of the engraved illustrations. ff. (1) 31, (1). Lightly stained, marginal repairs. Modern gilt-ruled polished calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio. [Yudlov 120; Yaari 73; Yerushalmi, 66-9.]

Amsterdam, Solomon Proops, 1712. **\$4000-6000**

• **THE SECOND ILLUSTRATED AMSTERDAM HAGADAH.**

Changes were undertaken in producing this Amsterdam 1712 edition following the first Amsterdam edition (1695). Most significantly, this included the addition of two series of vignettes in the style of the earlier Venetian Hagadah - namely, the various stages of the Seder (f. 2r) and the Ten Plagues (f. 13r).

See C. Roth, Printed Illuminated Haggadoth in: Aresheth, Vol. II pp. 22-4.

85 (HAGADAH). Chukath HaPesach. Prefaced by “Ke’arath Keseph,” a lengthy panegyric by R. Joseph Ezovi of Perpignan; prayers and readings for the month of Nissan and for the night of Passover; Passover Hagadah; and finally, Pirkei Avoth (Ethics of the Fathers). Edited by R. Abraham Ankawa. ff. 84. Closely shaved, light stains, burn mark on two leaves, trace wormed. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. 12mo. [Yudlov, 861; Halevy 12.]

Jerusalem, Israel ben Abraham (Bak), 1843. **\$1500-2000**

• **THE SECOND JERUSALEM HAGADAH.** (The first edition appeared a year prior).

Carries the Haskamah of Chief Rabbi Haim Avraham Gaguine of Jerusalem who commends the man responsible for bringing the book to press, one Reuben of Damascus.



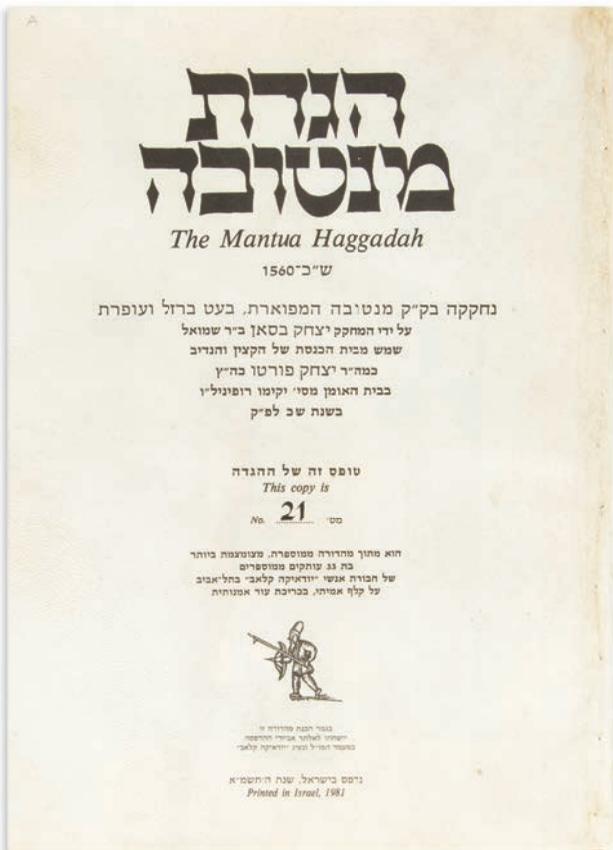
Lot 85



Lot 86



Lot 87



Lot 88

86 (HAGADAH). The Amsterdam (1712) Hagadah. Facsimile edition. **ONE OF 79 NUMBERED COPIES PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Illustrated throughout. Folding Map of the Land of Israel at end. *Rebound in mottled calf, slip-case. Folio.*

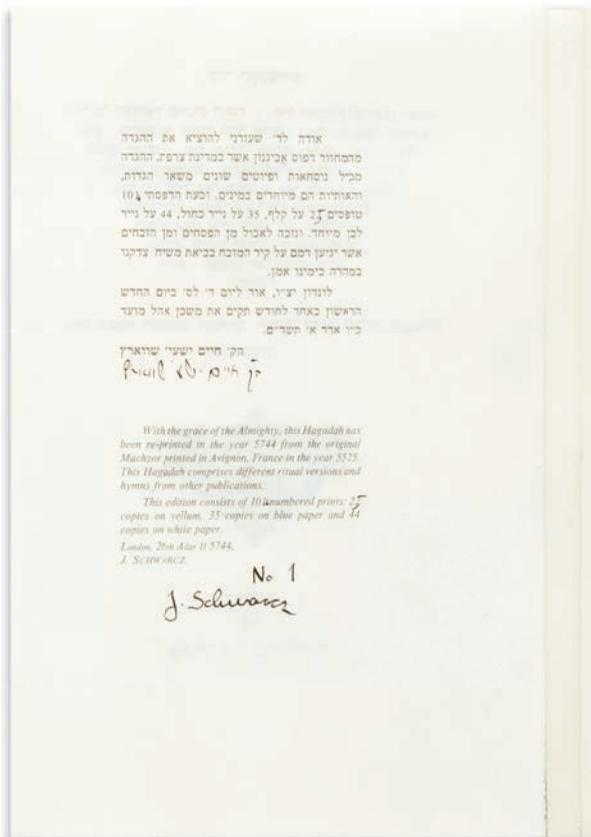
Milan, 1980. **\$800-1200**

87 (HAGADAH). The Venice (1629) Hagadah. Facsimile edition. **ONE OF 79 NUMBERED COPIES PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Illustrated throughout. *Original calf. Folio.*

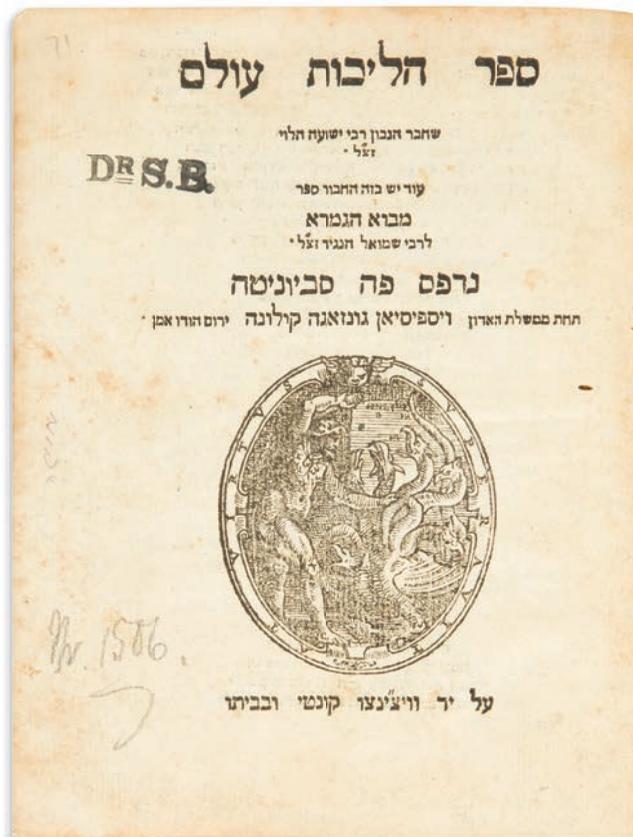
Milan, 1981. **\$800-1200**

88 (HAGADAH). The Mantua (1560) Hagadah. Facsimile edition. **ONE OF 35 NUMBERED COPIES PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Illustrated throughout. *Rebound in cream morocco, with protective wrapper and slip-case. Folio.*

Tel Aviv, 1981. **\$800-1200**



Lot 89



Lot 90

89 (HAGADAH). The Avignon (1765) Hagadah. Facsimile edition. **ONE OF 25 NUMBERED COPIES PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Illustrated throughout. *Rebound in tree-calf, with slip-case. Sm. folio.*

London, 1984. **\$600-900**

• A Hagadah extracted from the Avignon Machzor entitled "Seder HaKuntress," this facsimile edition was issued by the London bibliophile J. Schwarcz. This copy, signed by the publisher, is marked "No. 1."

90 HALEVI, JOSHUA OF TLEMCEN. Halichoth Olam [Talmudic methodology, with commentary to the Thirteen Divine Attributes of Mercy]. Introduction by Shmuel HaNaggid. Printer's device on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 26). *ff. 38. Trace wormed, some foxing, signed by censors at end. Modern blind-tooled maroon morocco. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 52.]

Sabbioneta, Vincenzo Conti, 1567. **\$400-600**

91 HALPERIN, JACOB. Nachlath Ya'akov [responsa] **FIRST EDITION.** Title within six-part woodcut border embellished with floral motifs. With the approbation of R. Isaiah Horowitz - the Shalo"h HaKadosh. *ff. 53. Previous owner's marks, lightly worn and stained. Modern crushed morocco tooled in gilt. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Padua 4.]

Padua, Gasparo Crivellari, 1622-23. **\$500-700**

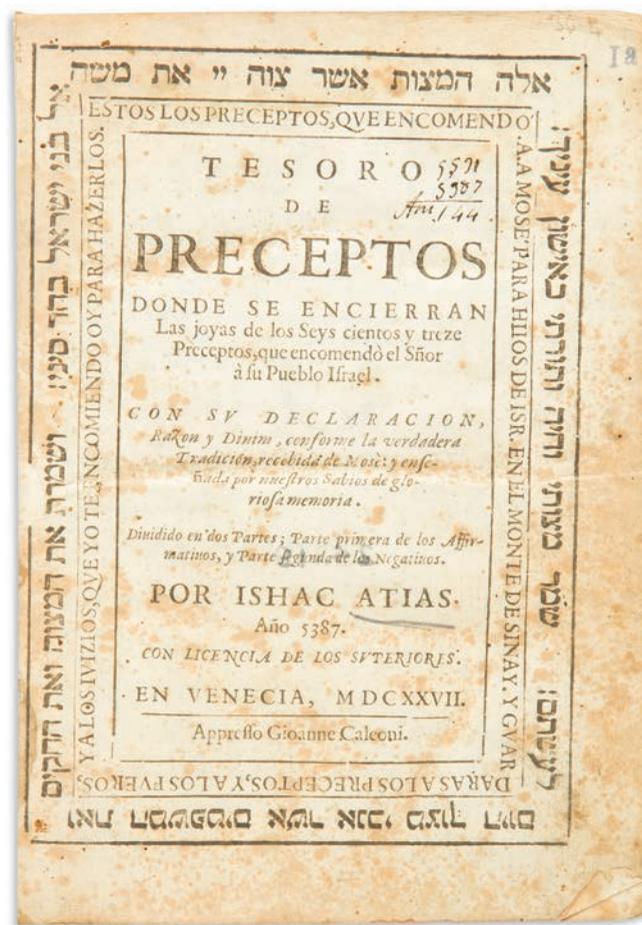
• An important work of responsa containing a wealth of contemporary information. The author corresponded with some of the greatest rabbis of his generation including the Shalo"h, Levush, Simcha Luzzatto of Venice, and others (see listing on f. 2r).



Lot 91



Lot 92



Lot 93

92 (IBERIAN / SEPHARDIC LITERATURE). Moses Altaras. Libro de Mantenimiento de la Alma. **FIRST EDITION** of this translation of Joseph Karo's Shulchan Aruch. Title within architectural arch. Bookplate of Irma Roth on verso of title-page. ff. 175, (2). Few stains. Modern gilt-ruled crushed morocco. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 1059.]

Venice, Baldisera Bonibelli, 1609. **\$4000-6000**

♣ Prepared by the rabbi of the Spanish Synagogue of Venice, 'The Book for the Maintenance of the Soul' is an abbreviated, Spanish translation of the Shulchan Aruch, the primary text of Jewish law - the first time it appeared in the vernacular (in Latin characters).

93 (IBERIAN / SEPHARDIC LITERATURE). Isaac Atias (Athias). Tesoro de Preceptos donde se encierran Las joyas de los Seys cientos y treze Preceptos que encomendó el Señor a su Pueblo Israel. **FIRST EDITION.** Spanish text interspersed with Hebrew. Two parts in one volume. The Mayer Sulzberger copy with his bookplate (Provenance: Christie's, 5.22.86 lot 32). ff. (6), 20, (6), 256, (10). Ex-library, foxed and stained. Modern tan morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. 4to. [Palua 19333; Kayslering, p. 15.]

Venice, Giovanni Caleoni, 1627. **\$5000-7000**

♣ A disciple of Isaac Uziel in Amsterdam, Isaac Atias was Haham of the first Portuguese-Jewish congregation in Hamburg, before accepting the call in 1622 to serve as rabbi of Venice where he later died. See JE, Vol. II, p. 268.

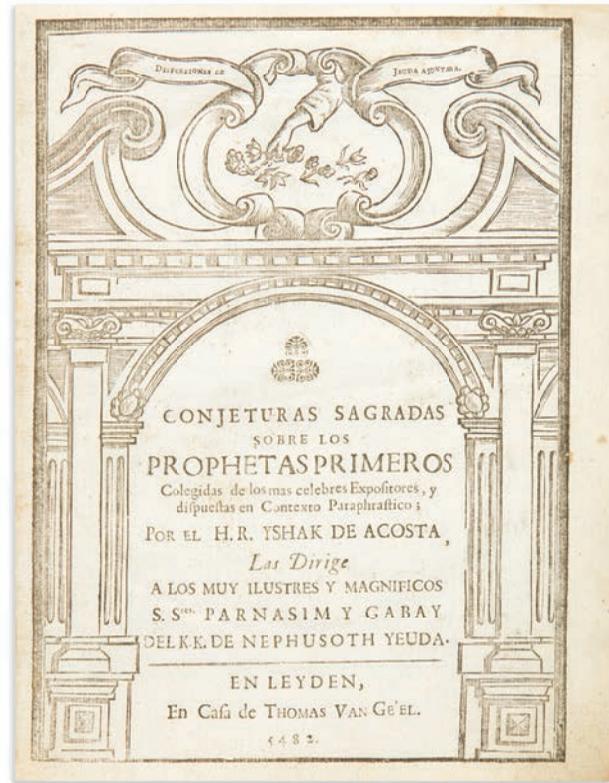
Following the lead of Maimonides in his Sefher HaMitzvoth, the author has divided this important work into two parts: The first, an enumeration of the 248 positive precepts; the second, an enumeration of the 365 negative precepts. In the Prologue, Athias explicitly refers to his Marrano brethren as the "noblest nation of Spain" who have been punished with "exile, calamities, death and excessive suffering... and whose majority number have been miserably buried in the darkness of perdition until the Lord assisted them and they returned to adore his blessed service."

94 (IBERIAN / SEPHARDIC LITERATURE). Joseph Karo. Shulchan HaPanim [Jewish Law]. Translated into Judeo-Spanish (Ladino) by Meir ibn Yair Meiri. Title within historiated architectural border depicting Moses and Aaron. ff. 184. Title neatly repaired, worn and stained. Modern morocco. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 1616.]

Venice, Bragadin, 1713. **\$500-700**



Lot 94



Lot 95

95 (IBERIAN / SEPHARDIC LITERATURE). Isaac de Acosta. *Conjeturas Sagradas sobre los Prophetas Primeros*. **FIRST EDITION**. Title within architectural arch. Final page with signature of Signora Ricca Abudraham. pp. (8), 906. Lightly stained. Modern boards. Lg. 4to.

Leiden, Thomas van Ge'el, 1722. **\$800-1200**

✦ A paraphrase of the Early Prophets including the major rabbinic Biblical commentators.

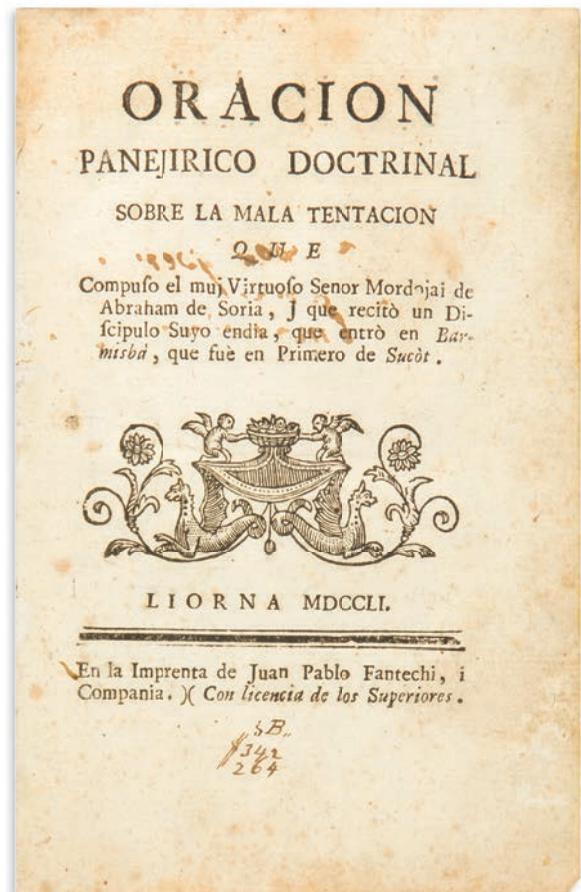
96 (IBERIAN / SEPHARDIC LITERATURE). Mordecai de Abraham de Soria. *Oraçion Panejirico Doctrinal Sobre la Mala Tentacion* [oration about the Evil Inclination...recited by a disciple of the Author on the day that he entered Bar Mitzvah, the first day of Sukoth]. **FIRST EDITION**. Spanish interspersed with Hebrew. pp. 216. Foxed and stained, previous owner's marks, upper corners of pp. 27-32 removed affecting a few letters. Contemporary calf-backed boards, worn. 8vo. [Kaysersling p. 104.]

Livorno, Juan Pablo Fantechi, 1751. **\$500-700**

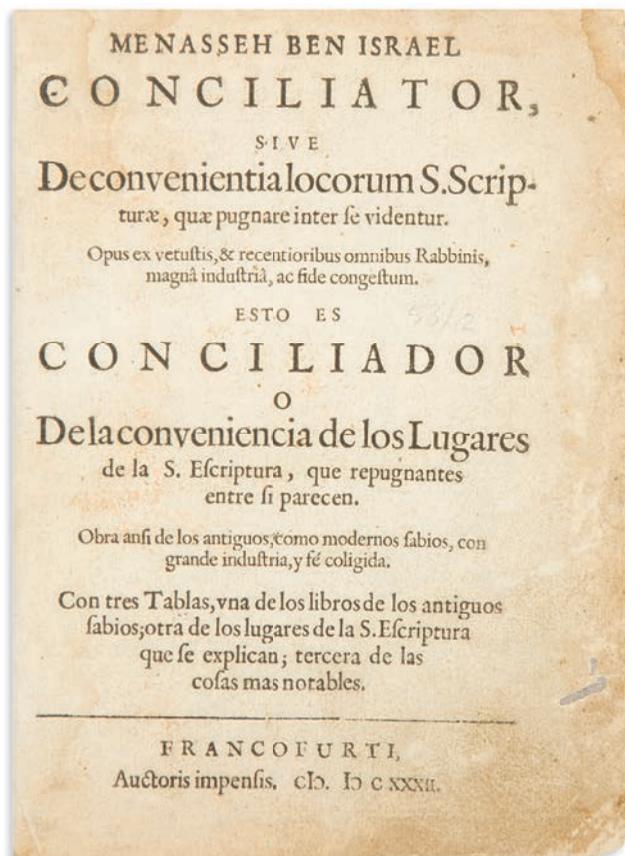
✦ A sophisticated (and lengthy!) Bar-Mitzvah speech, in which, among other topics, the symbolism of the Tabernacle festival's Four Species is presented (pp. 126-144). In what appears an original interpretation, the author maintains that the ethrog represents the First Cause, the lulav the Angelic World, the hadas the Spheres, and finally, the aravah or willow branch the Terrestrial or Sublunar realm (p. 140).

That the book is in Spanish rather than Italian is not at all surprising, for the majority Sephardim of Livorno were still Portuguese and Spanish speaking until the beginning of the 19th-century.

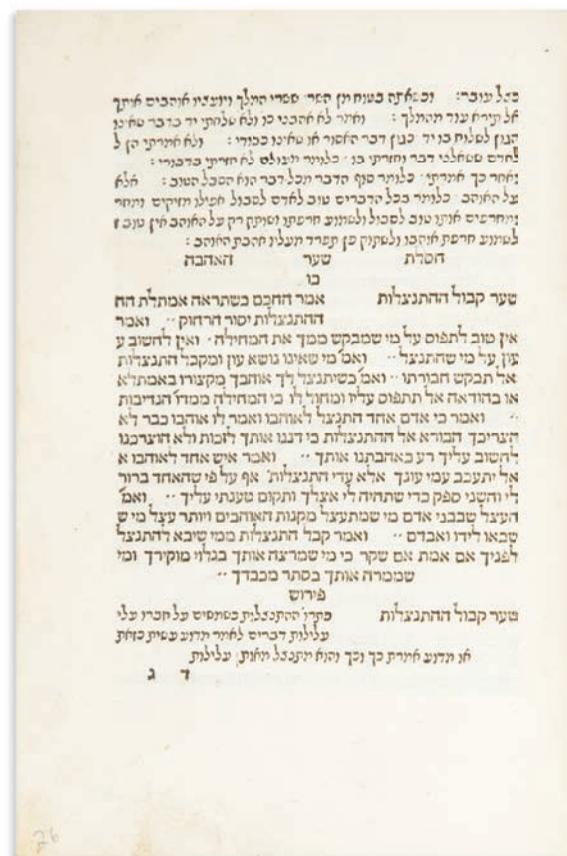
Kaysersling notes with consternation that Church officials found fault with this text and placed it on the Index of 1755.



Lot 96



Lot 97



Lot 98

97 (IBERIAN / SEPHARDIC LITERATURE). Menasseh ben Israel. *Conciliador o de la conveniencia de los Lugares de la S. Escritura que repugnantes entre si parecen.* **FIRST EDITION.** Four parts in two volumes. Title in Latin and Spanish. Spanish text interspersed with Hebrew. Printer's device on parts 2-4.

- * Part One: pp. (16), 379, (33). Frankfurt [i.e. Amsterdam], By the Author [Dionysius Rossius], 1632.
- * Part Two: pp. (16), 195, (21). Amsterdam, Nicolaus de Ravesteyn, 1641.
- * Part Three: pp. (12), 208, (6). Amsterdam, Samuel ben Israel Socero [i.e. Menasseh ben Israel], 1650.
- * Part Four: pp. (8), 201, (7). Amsterdam, Samuel ben Israel Socero, 1651.

ACCOMPANIED BY: *Conciliator sive de convenientia locorum S. Scripturae, quae pugnare inter se videntur.* ff. (7), 240. Amsterdam 1633. Latin translation by Dionysius Vossius of the first part of Menasseh's *Conciliador*. With a preface by the author and a commendatory poem in Latin by Dr. Zacutus Lusitanus. [Silva Rosa 15.]

Occasional browning and staining, few neat marginal repairs, first volume with some marginal worming, title of part II with previous owner's stamp. Later calf, spines gilt, rubbed; third volume later vellum. Housed in custom slip-case. 4to.

Amsterdam, v.d. **\$3000-5000**

• The work which won Menasseh ben Israel his scholarly reputation in both Jewish and Christian circles.

Conciliador poses 180 questions, or glaring contradictions in the Bible, which the young Amsterdam rabbi deftly reconciles (hence the title "Conciliator"). Twenty-eight years old at the time of its publication, Menasseh demonstrated his fluency within both Jewish and general literature, citing 221 Jewish and 54 Gentile authors rear). Cecil Roth, deems this work Menasseh's "magnum opus." See C. Roth, *A Life of Menasseh Ben Israel* (1945) pp. 87-91.

98 IBN GABIROL, SOLOMON. *Mivchar HaPeninim* ["Choicest of Pearls"]. Translated from the Arabic by Judah ibn Tibbon. **FIRST EDITION.** Square and cursive Rabbinic type alternate in text. ff. 41 (of 60). *Provided in facsimile:* ff. 1, 5, 7-9, 13-15, 17, 23, 47-51, 53, 57-59. *Upper corners of few leaves with loss affecting text, few marginal repairs, stained in places. Modern blind-tooled crushed morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, *Soncino* 3; Steinschneider, p. 2319, no. 6916.1; Goff, Heb-98; Thes. A-27; Offenberg 57.]

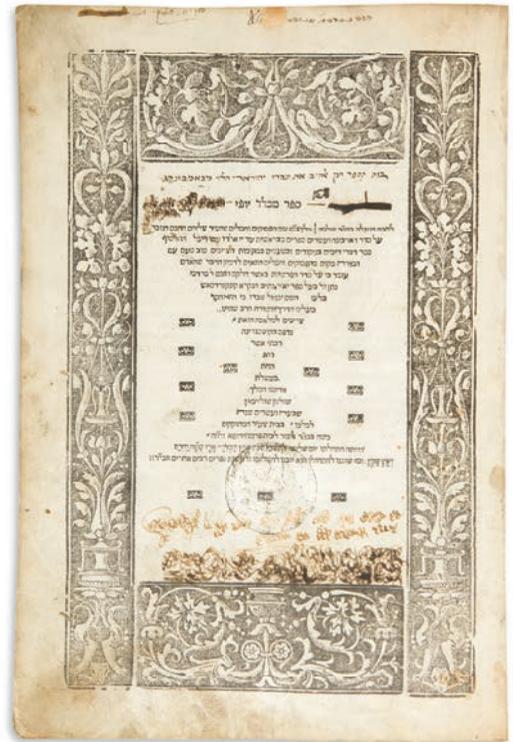
Soncino, Joshua Solomon ben Israel Nathan Soncino, 1484. **\$4000-6000**

• First edition ethical work, a collection of maxims, proverbs and moral reflections. The second book - the first, according to bibliographer Gerson Cohen - printed by the Soncino Family, publishers of more Hebrew volumes than any other press. See D. Amram, *The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy* (1963) pp. 56-60.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 12.



Lot 99



Lot 100

99 IBN GABIROL, SOLOMON. Mivchar HaPeninim [“Choicest of Pearls” - ethics] Third edition. ff. 40. Few neat repairs. Modern elaborate gilt-tooled tan morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Cremona 22, Mehlman 945.]

Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1558. **\$500-700**

100 IBN MELECH, SOLOMON. Michlol Yofi [linguistic commentary to the Bible]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within ornamental woodcut border. Double columns. Key words provided with nikud (vowel points). Signatures including Yehudah Aryeh Halevi of Bamberg; learned marginalia in a few hands. (ff. 192). Discolored, stained in places. Modern morocco, housed in slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Const. 199; Yaari, Const. 148.]

Constantinople, Moses ben Eliezer Parnas HaRofe, 1548-49. **\$1200-1800**

✦ Michlol Yofi incorporates much of David Kimchi’s Sefher HaShorashim, to the extent of co-opting some of Kimchi’s translations to French (or rather Provençal).

101 IBN SHEM TOV, SHEM TOV BEN JOSEPH. Derashoth HaTorah [sermons to the Pentateuch]. Third edition. Title within architectural arch. f. 81. Foxed, censored in places. Modern blind-tooled calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Padua 2.]

Padua, Lorenzo Pasquato, 1567. **\$600-900**

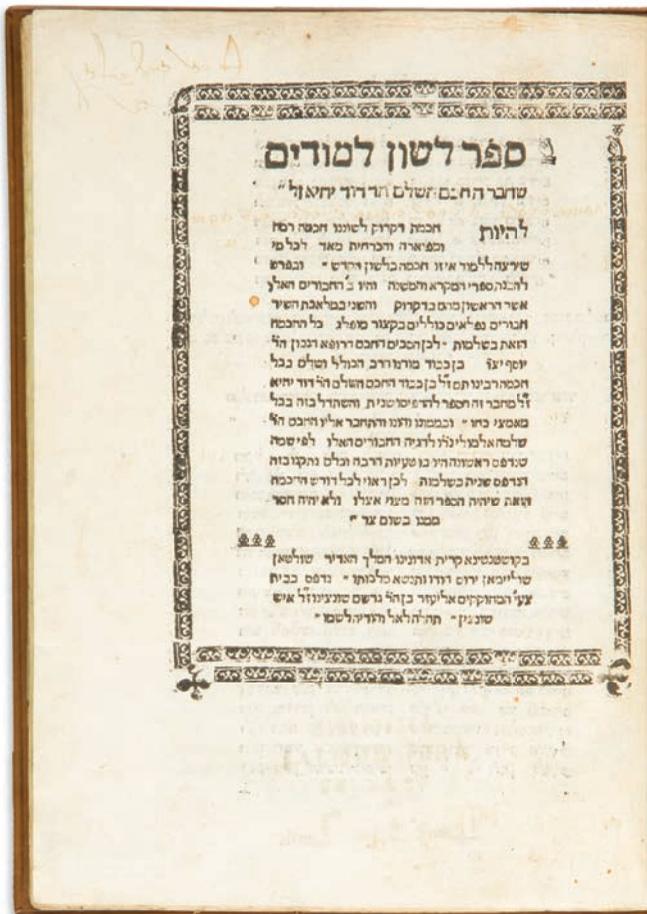
✦ Though a prolific author of philosophic works, only two works by ibn Shem Tov (Spain, 15th century) were published - the present Derashoth HaTorah and the commentary to Maimonides’ Guide of the Perplexed - which continues to this day to be reprinted in standard editions of the Guide.

Derashoth HaTorah cites abundantly from the author’s predecessors: Sa’adyah, Rashi, ibn Ezra, Nachmanides, Gersonides - with constant referral to the Guide (“HaMoreh”). Appended are several sermons on the theme of Repentance (Derash LeTeshuvah).

Despite the ancient presence of the University - one of the great institutions of learning in Europe - only two Hebrew books were printed in Padua throughout the 16th-century. See Amram, The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy, pp. 338-41 and 387-88.



Lot 101



Lot 102

102 IBN YACHYA, DAVID. Lashon Limudim [grammar and the construction of poetry]. Third edition. Title within ornamental border. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. (45). Few light stains. Modern chestnut calf, slip-case. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 176.]

Constantinople, Eliezer ben Gershom Soncino, 1542. **\$1000-1500**

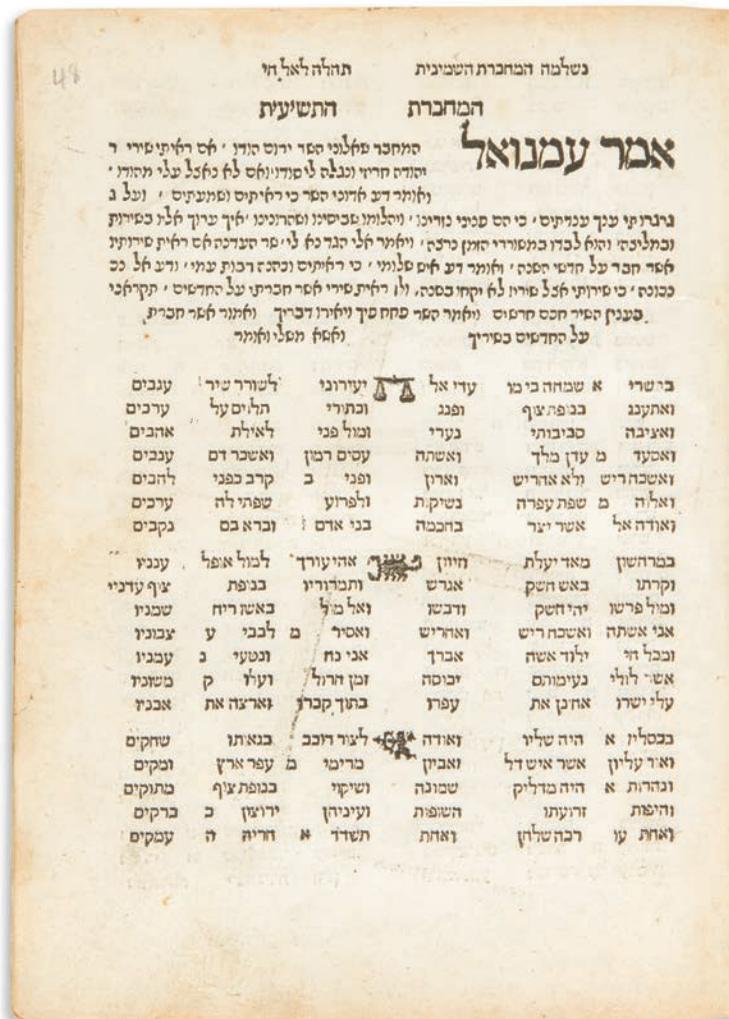
Originally written in Lisbon, the present edition was published by the author's grandson R. Joseph ben R. Tam ibn Yachya (author of Ohalei Tam) and edited by Solomon Almoli who notes that earlier editions of the Lashon Limudim were riddled with errors.

103 ILLESCOS, JACOB D'. Imrei Noam [Kabbalistic and grammatical super-commentary to Rashi and ibn Ezra on the Pentateuch] Second edition. Title within architectural arch straddled by cherubs. Marginal note on f. 8. Wider margins. ff. 20 (i.e. 50). Some marginal dampsoiling, lower corner of title-page neatly repaired. Modern tan calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Cremona 37.]

Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1566. **\$500-700**



Lot 103



104 IMMANUEL BEN SOLOMON OF ROME. Sepher HaMachbaroth LeMar Immanuel [poetry] **FIRST EDITION.** Decorative woodcut initial word panel on f. 2r partially reproduced in manuscript. A rare printer's error in imposition in the inner bifolium of quire 4 has yielded the following curious mispagination: f. 27r is paired with f. 29v; 30r with 28v; 29r with 27v; and 28r with 30v. **THE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC HEREIN ARE THE FIRST ILLUSTRATIONS TO APPEAR IN A HEBREW BOOK** (see ff. 48r-49r). ff. 152 (of 160). *Lacking opening blank, f. 8 reproduced in facsimile on old paper, ff. 149, 156-160 reproduced in a fine rabbinic hand, ff. 2, 148, 155 mounted, with some text reproduced in manuscript. Few leaves strengthened at gutter, lightly browned and stained, trace wormed. Modern vellum. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Brescia 3; Goff Heb-43; Steinschneider, col. 1057, no. 5269,1; Offenbergs 58; Thes. A-77; BMC XIII, p. 68; Iakerson 66.]

Brescia, Gershom ben Moses Soncino,
1491. \$7000-9000

• **THE FIRST PRINTED BOOK OF HEBREW POETRY AND ONE OF ONLY TWO LITERARY HEBREW INCUNABULA.**

Sepher HaMachbaroth is the most important work of Immanuel ben Solomon of Rome (ca. 1261-1328), poet, scholar and author of both Hebrew and Italian texts. Combining poetry and prose on subjects as diverse as love, wine, and friendship, with satires, epistles, elegies and religious poems, Sefer HaMachbaroth represents a unique example of the blending of traditional Jewish and secular Italian literature that characterized much of the Jewish literary output during the Italian Renaissance. With his linguistic artistry and use of skillful wordplay, Immanuel sets a tone here that is generally light-hearted and witty in twenty eight chapters, combining poetry and prose on subjects as diverse as love, wine, and friendship, along with satires, epistles, elegies and religious poems. In fact, Yigdal, the well-known liturgical poem based on Maimonides' thirteen principles of faith, is an abridged adaptation of a poem by Immanuel included in the fourth chapter of this work.



Lot 105



Lot 106



Lot 107

105 IMMANUEL BEN JEKUTIEL OF BENEVENTO. Livyath Chen [grammar]. **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Title within architectural arch. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 108. Stained, lower margin of opening and closing several leaves repaired with some loss, marginal worming, stamps removed, faint owner's inscriptions. Modern blind-tooled tan calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Mantua 39; Mehlman 1239; Adams I-52.]

Mantua, Jacob ben Naphtali Hakohen, 1557. **\$2000-2500**

• **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

The author, a highly regarded Italian Kabbalist, helped facilitate the first printing of the Zohar in Mantua in 1558. A mystical element clearly influences the Livyath Chen, indeed passages from the Zohar are found therein. See I. Tishbi, Kovetz Perakim, Vol. I, pp. 143-48.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 8.

106 ISAAC BEN MEIR OF DÜREN. Sha'arei Dura - Issue VeHeter [Rabbinic Code]. With commentaries including Mavo Shearim by Nathan ben Shimshon Shapiro. **FIRST EDITION** of Mavo Shearim. Title within historiated border, printer's device illustrating the Temple on f. 3b. Signature on title. ff. 110. Browened and stained in places, marginal worming, several leaves expertly laid to size. Modern blind-tooled crushed morocco, slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Lublin 32; for dating this work see Heller, The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book, Vol. II, p. 635.]

Lublin, Kalonymus ben Mordechai Jaffe, (1574-75). **\$1500-2000**

• Exhibited by the Pierpont Morgan Library, see their catalogue: Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust (1989) no. 44.

R. Isaac of Duran (second half of the 13th century) was a preeminent German Halachic authority. His Sha'arei Dura is one of the most important Codes concerning dietary laws. It is based upon the traditions of both Germany and France and became the ultimate source for Halachah in this area, quoted at length by all subsequent codifiers. The extensive commentary Mavo Shearim includes the customs of Poland and Russia. For more details on the importance of this commentary, see the comprehensive monograph by R. Eliezer Katzman in Yeshurun, Vol. 13, pp. 617-700; and Vol. 14, pp. 935-964.

107 ISAAC NATHAN BEN KALONYMUS. Meir Nathiv [Biblical concordance]. Title within typographic border. Printer's device (Yaari, Printers Marks, no. 12) on title-page. Three generations of signatures on title-page, commencing with HaGaon Sender, Av Beth Din of Warburg. ff. (400). Browened, dampsoiled, outer margin of opening leaf repaired, new endpapers. Later sheep over thick wooden boards, expertly repaired. Lg. folio. [Vinograd, Basle 172.]

Basle, Ambrosius Froben, 1581. **\$400-600**



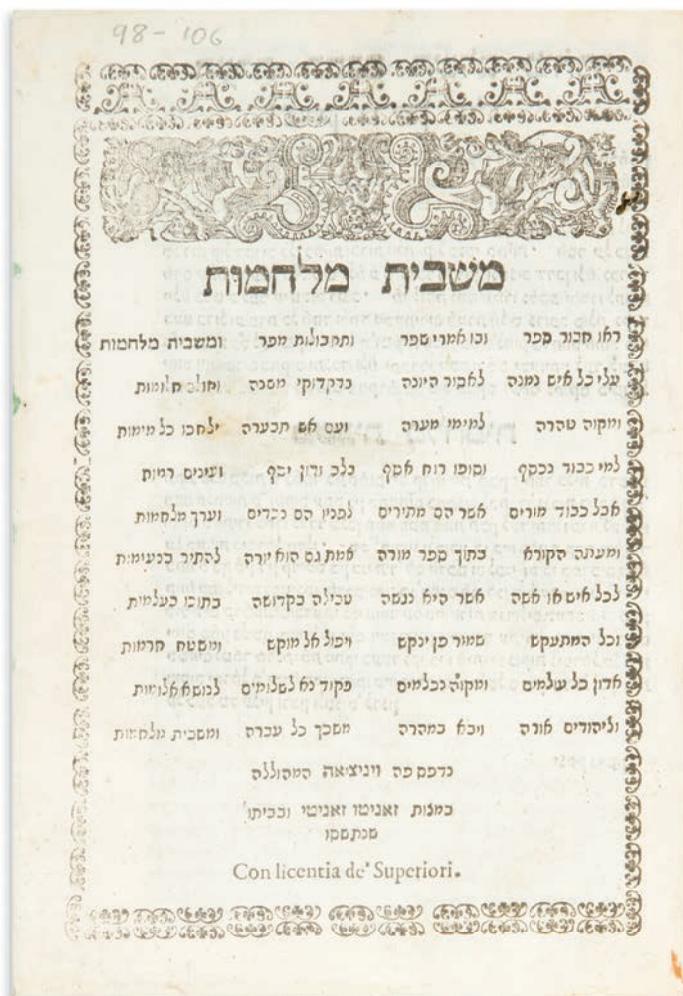
108 ISSERLES, MOSES (ReM'A). *Torath Ha'Olah* [philosophy]. **FIRST EDITION.** Historiated title border containing printer's mark on title, consisting of lions and hands conveying the Priestly Benediction (see Ya'ari, *Hebrew Printers' Marks*, p. 24, pl. 3; p. 137), lower portion of frame with bearded face accompanied by two cherubs. With the rare final leaf of poetry in praise of the Author **NOT SEEN OR NOTED BY VINOGRAD AND MISSING FROM MOST ALL COPIES.** Verso of title with signature of Yitzchak ben HaGaon Avraham HaLevi. ff. (6), 173. *Browned, dampstained and foxed in places. Stamp removed from title, neatly laid to size and rehinged, f. 19 with small hole, f. 171 remargined. Modern crushed morocco. Folio.* [Vinograd, Prague 36.]

Prague, Mordechai Katz, 1569-70. **\$8000-10,000**

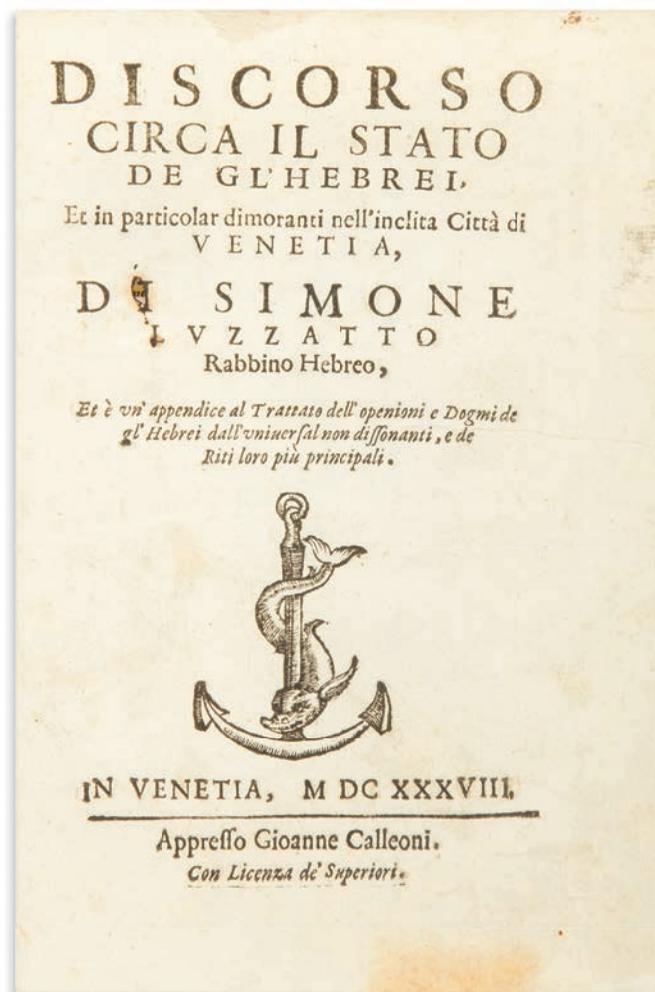
✦ **FIRST EDITION OF R. MOSES ISSERLES' FUNDAMENTAL CLASSIC OF JEWISH THOUGHT.**

A native of Cracow (c. 1525-72), the author demonstrates in this work his mastery of rationalist, particularly Maimonidean philosophy, through which he explains the meaning and symbolism behind the sacrifices offered in the Temple. This rationalist bent aroused the ire of his contemporaries such as R. Solomon Luria (Maharsha'l) and R. Judah Löw (Mahara'l). The Rem'a is most celebrated for his lasting contributions to Jewish law: "Darchei Moshe" to Joseph Karo's *Beith Yoseph* and the Glosses to his *Shulchan Aruch*. See M.J. Heller, *The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book*, pp. 612-3.

Following the death of the Prague printer Gershom Katz in 1544, direction of his press was principally assumed by his son Mordechai, along with his brothers. In 1569, Mordechai began to print independently of his brothers, but assisted by his sons. *Torath Ha'Olah* was the first issue of their press.



Lot 109



Lot 110

109 (ITALY). Isaac Gershon (Ed.) Mashbith Milchamoth. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within type-ornament border. ff. 94, 3. Trace stained with minimal worming. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 1015.]

Venice, Zanetti, 1606. **\$400-600**

• The first of a trilogy concerning a celebrated controversy relating to the Halachic validity of the ritual-bath in Rovigo, Northern Italy. See A. Yaari, *Mechkarei Sepher* (1958) pp. 420-29; M. Carmilly-Weinberger, *Censorship & Freedom Expression in Jewish History* (1977) pp. 160-1.

110 (ITALY). Simone Luzzatto. *Discorso circa il stato de gl' Hebrei, et in particular dimoranti nell'inclita Città di Venetia* ["Discourse on the Jews of Venice."] **FIRST EDITION.** Aldine's anchor device on title. ff. 92. Small tear to title-page. Later cloth-backed marbled boards. 8vo. [St. Cat. Bodl. col. 2597 no. 7191.]

Venice, Gioanne Calleoni, 1638. **\$1200-1800**

• The author, Simone (Simcha) Luzzatto (1583-1663), was appointed senior Rabbi of Venice following the death of Leone Modena. Luzzatto was spurred to compose the present work due to a perceived threat of expulsion from Venice of its Jews. Luzzatto devoted the first part of the *Discorso* to a demonstration of the utility of the Jews to the economy of Venice. Perforce, he defends money-lending (which the Venetian Senate had required the Jews to engage in); moreover, the author argues that due to their political quietism at no time would Jews pose a threat to the internal security of the Venetian Republic. Whether as a direct result of this work or not, Jews were indeed permitted to remain in Venice.

See B. Ravid, *Moneylending in Seventeenth Century Jewish Vernacular Apologetica*, & B. Septimus, *Biblical Religion and Political Rationality in Simone Luzzatto, Maimonides and Spinoza* in: Twersky & Septimus (eds.) *Jewish Thought in the Seventeenth Century* (1987) pp. 257-75; 399-433.



Lot 111

111 (ITALY). Seder HaHa'arachah VeHanhagah [communal tax regulations and obligations for the years 1651-54]. Title within architectural arch. Endorsed by Rabbis Yechiel b. Yedidya Solomon Norzi, David b. Israel Yechezkel and David b. Eliakim HaLevi. Uncut copy. ff. (6). *Uncut. Few stains. Modern calf. 4to.* [Vinograd, Mantua 423.]

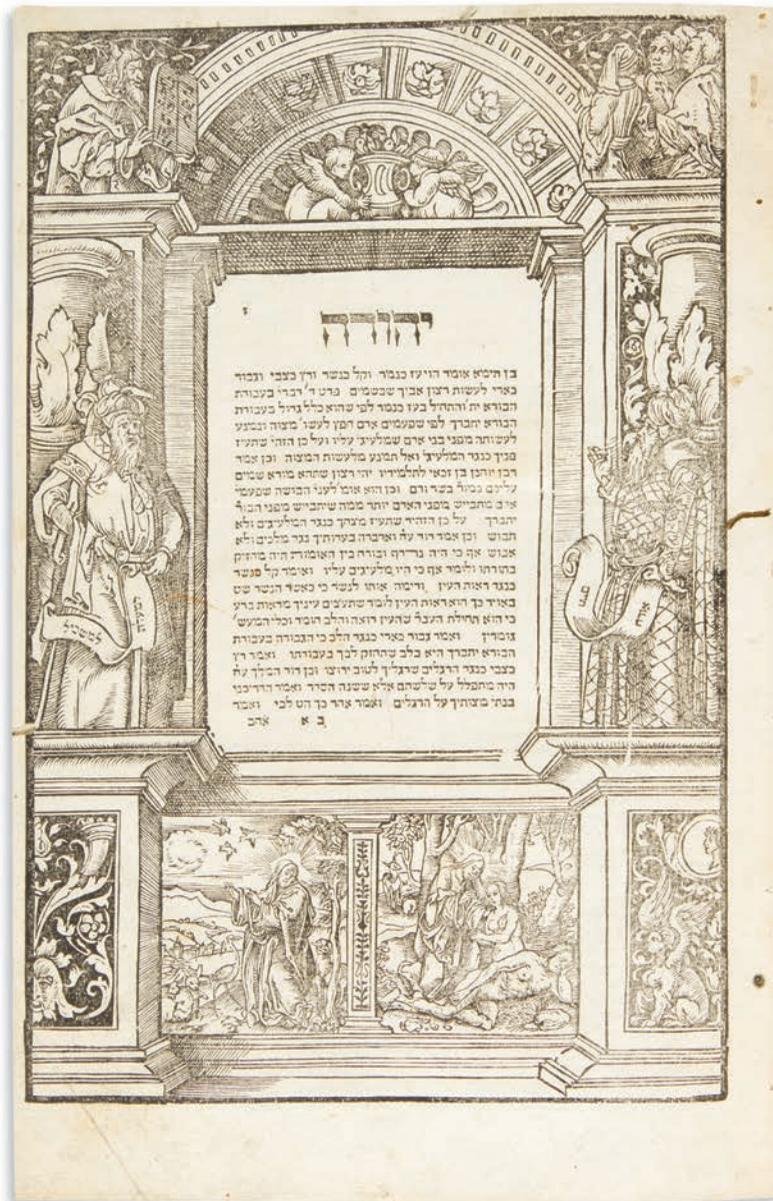
Mantua, Raphael Chaim d'Italia, (1651-53). **\$600-900**

• From the beginning of the 16th century the Mantuan Community organized its financial obligations through the levying of taxes. These tax regulations chart the economic changes of Mantuan Jewry and the kinds of property and income that were taxable. Every three years taxes of the Jewish community would be reviewed after which a new set of regulations were published. The present edition, published by the Va'ad HaKelali (Community Council) covers the period from January, 1651 until December, 1654. See S. Simonsohn, *History of the Jews in the Duchy of Mantua* (1977) pp. 375-90.

112 JACOB BEN ASHER. Arba'ah Turim [Rabbinic Code of Law] Fragment of two leaves only (of 408). *Two-thirds of second leaf present, both leaves laid to size. Loose in modern folder. Folio.* [Vinograd, Const. 1; Yaari, Const. 1; Goff Heb-49; (5 copies of which 3 are imperfect); Offenberg 63; Steinschneider p. 1182, no. 5500.3; Thes. C-1; Mehlman, *Genuzot Sepharim*, p. 104.]

Constantinople, David and Samuel ibn Nachmias, 1493. **\$1000-2000**

• THE TUR WAS THE FIRST BOOK TO BE PRINTED IN ANY LANGUAGE IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE AND THE NEAR EAST. IT WAS THE ONLY HEBREW INCUNABLE TO BE PRINTED IN CONSTANTINOPLE.



113 JACOB BEN ASHER. Arba'ah Turim. Four parts bound in one. Title page without ornamentation. On f.7 ornate woodcut border by Hans Holbein the Younger depicting the Creation, architectural pillars flanked by Kings David and Solomon clutching scrolls inscribed "The Path of Life (Orach Chaim) Journeys Upwards for the Wise" (Proverbs 15:24). Poem at end by Elijah Levita. Various owner's inscriptions on opening page, signature at end of Yoreh De'ah of Baruch b. Yosef d'Ancona. ff. 84; 70; 2, 44; 112, (2). *Trimmed, lightly discolored, worming repaired in places, inscriptions on opening leaf. Modern blind-tooled cream morocco over thick wooden boards. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Augsburg 11; Mehlman 728; St. Cat. Bodl. 5500:7 (ed. rara).]

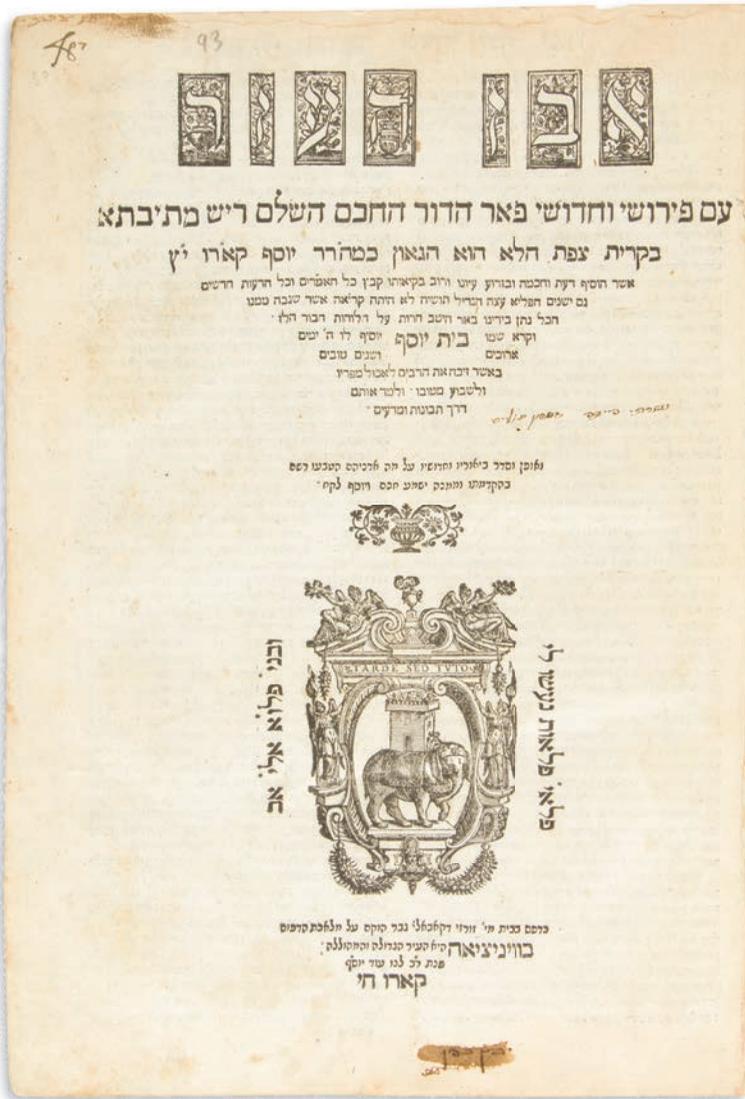
Augsburg, Chaim ba'r David, et al., 1540. **\$10,000-15,000**

♣ **JACOB BEN ASHER'S TUR. A RARE AND IMPORTANT GERMAN EDITION.**

A fundamental Rabbinic treatise embracing all the laws and customs incumbent both on an individual and the community as a whole. Its overriding authority has been recognized and accepted by Jewish scholars for generations.

The publisher praises this edition on the title-page as follows: "All previous editions of the Turim have faults and are crippled... especially the last two parts... I called upon my son-in-law Yoseph bar Yakar and told him... you are a scholar, dig into the depths of the halacha... you must repair the problems. ...We obtained a Tur that was checked and corrected by our teacher, HaGaon R. Abraham of Prague the "Light of our Generation" and compared every page two or three times."

THE PRESENT COPY ENTIRELY COMPLETE, TOGETHER WITH THE RARE TWO LEAF INDEX AT END WHICH STEINSCHNEIDER NOTES IS FREQUENTLY MISSING.



Lot 114



Lot 115

114 JACOB BEN ASHER. (Tur) Even Ha'Ezer. With commentary by R. Yoseph Karo (second edition). Printer's device on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers' Marks, no. 32). ff. 232. Lightly browned, final leaf taped. Modern blind-tooled crushed morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 499.]

Venice, Giorgio di Cavalli, 1565. **\$1000-1500**

♣ Cavalli's competitor di Gara also issued a Tur Even Ha'Ezer in the same year of 1565.

115 JAFFE, MORDECHAI. Levush Atereth Zahav Gedolah [commentary on Tur Yoreh De'ah]. **BOUND WITH:** Levush Ir Shushan [commentary on Tur Choshen Mishpat] Two parts (of four) bound in one volume. Two titles each within historiated architectural borders. ff. 192 and 192. Opening title and final two leaves repaired, browned and stained. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Prague 314 and 315.]

Prague, Moses Katz, 1624. **\$1000-1500**

♣ Mordechai Jaffe (c. 1535-1612), a native of Prague, studied in his youth in Poland under the greatest scholars of the day, R. Solomon Luria (Maharsha"l) and R. Moses Isserles (Ram"a). In subsequent years, he would sojourn in Italy and once again in Poland before finally returning to his native Prague in 1592, at which time he succeeded the famed R. Judah Löw (Mahara"l) as Av Beth Din.

In most of Europe, the "Levush" was studied as a supplement to the Shulchan Aruch and Mappah. In Prague, however, it was studied as the most fundamental, authoritative text of the halacha and remains to this day one of its mainstays - especially of the Ashkenazic tradition.



Lot 116



Lot 117

116 JOSEPH BEN GORION (Commonly and erroneously attributed to). Yosippon [historical narrative of the Second Temple period]. Yiddish text printed in Wayber-taytsch type. Woodcut illustrations throughout. Two volumes (mixed set). ff. (1), 244, (1), 151. *Browned, some wear. Modern calf and contemporary vellum; housed together in slip-case. 8vo.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 2002; M.H. Gans, Memorbook (1977) p. 185 no. 5 (illustrated)]

Amsterdam, Koschmann b. Joseph Baruch, 1771. **\$500-700**

• Two-part edition, sub-titled Kether Kehunah and Kether Malchuth - also known as She'erith Yisrael. The second part written by Menachem Mann Amelander continues the historical chronicle from the fall of Masada to the writer's own era of 18th century Holland. Amelander garnered material from both Jewish and general historical sources, resulting in a work unusually rich in information regarding the history of Jews in Germany, Poland and especially Holland. The She'erith Yehudah is "the most important work of all of Old-Yiddish historiographical literature." Zinberg p. 233.

117 (KABBALAH). Nathan Nata Hanover. Sha'arei Tzion [a collection of mystical prayers, religious customs and ascetic reflections]. Title surrounded by florets. ff. 52. *Light wear, corners neatly repaired. Modern calf-backed marbled boards, corners vellum.* [Vinograd, Prague 584.]

Prague, Grandchildren of Moses Katz, 1688. **\$500-700**

• Nathan Nata Hanover (d. 1683), a native of Volhynia, survived the notorious Chmielnicki massacres of 1648-9 and recorded the atrocities in his woeful chronicle "Yeven Metzulah" (Venice, 1653). In Italy, where he sought refuge, he made the acquaintance of the great Kabbalists of the time: Moses Zacuto, Hayyim Cohen, Nathan Spira, and Benjamin HaLevi. In the present work, Sha'arei Zion (first ed. 1662), Hanover recorded for posterity the Lurianic traditions he imbibed from these men, his work in turn becoming immensely popular, serving as a conduit for Kabbalistic traditions.

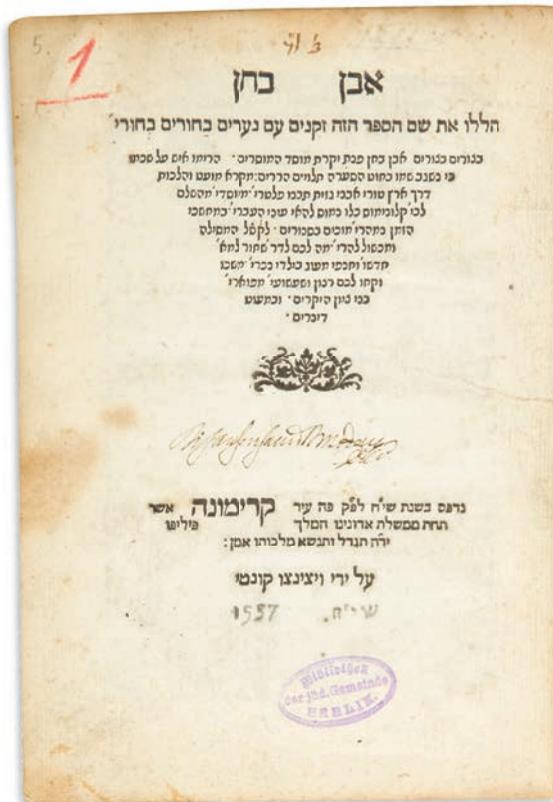
118 KALISCHER, YECHIEL MICHEL BEN ARYEH LEIB SEGAL. Sha'arei Shamayim [philosophical sermons, poems and eulogies]. **FIRST EDITION.** Previous owner's marks including signatures of ISH-GER (Joseph Solomon Graziano); f.4 with Prague purchase details. ff. 104. *Browned, neat paper repairs on title. Modern blind-tooled calf. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Prague 503.]

Prague, Sons of Judah Bek, 1675. **\$600-900**

• Comprised of eighteen sections, including novellae from the author's uncle, the MaHaRSH'A.



Lot 118



Lot 119

119 KALONYMOS BEN KALONYMOS OF ARLES. Even Bochan [ethics in the form of satire]. Third edition. Learned marginalia throughout. Verso of title-page with inscription and signature by Samson Cohen Modon, ff. 32. *Dampwrinkled, previous owner's marks, signed by censors at end. Few light stains. Modern mottled calf. 4to.* [Vinograd, Cremona 18.]

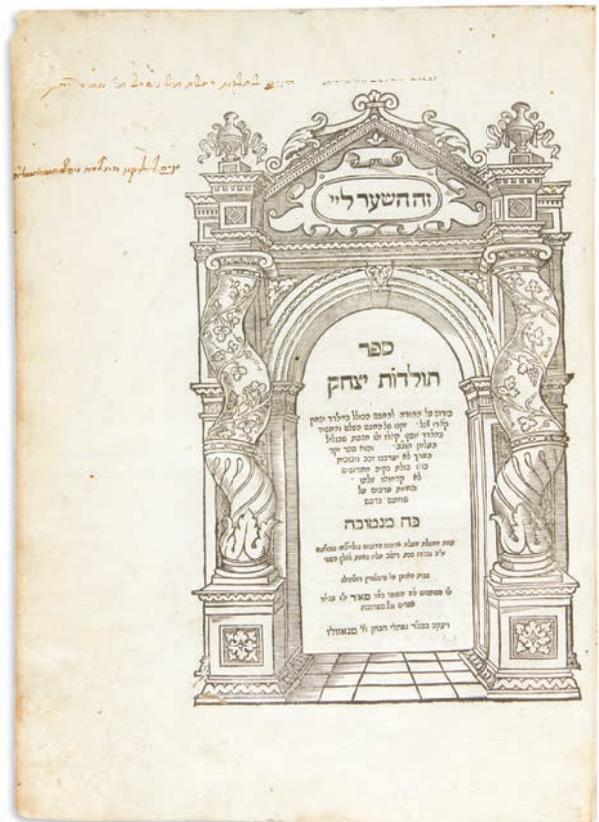
Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1558. **\$500-700**

From a prominent and distinguished Provençal Jewish family, the philosopher Kalonymos of Arles (1287-1337) pokes fun here at the human condition, at aspiring patricians who claim bogus pedigrees, self-proclaimed savants and pious frauds. Also noted are historical references to the first expulsion from France in 1306 and to the massacres of 1320-21. See I. Davidson, *Parody in Jewish Literature* pp. 28-9; M. Waxman, *A History of Jewish Literature Vol. II*, pp. 608-11.

120 KARO, ISAAC. Toldoth Yitzchak [novellae to the Pentateuch]. Second edition. Title within architectural arch. **AN UNCOMMONLY WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. (1), 81. *Inheritance inscription on title-page, trace wormed along outer margins, ff.3-15 with repaired dampsoiling along inner margin with minimal loss. Later blind-tooled calf, lightly rubbed. Tall folio.* [Vinograd, Mantua 58.]

Mantua, Venturin Ruffinelli, 1558. **\$600-900**

A concisely written commentary to the Chumash which includes literal, homiletical, kabbalistic and philosophical interpretations. The author, Isaac Karo (not to be confused with his celebrated nephew, R. Joseph Karo), was a native of Toledo and a man of broad culture. Several years before the Spanish Expulsion in 1492, Isaac Karo moved his yeshivah to Portugal, but following the the subsequent expulsion of the Jews from Portugal in 1497, he was forced to flee to Turkey. Karo entered the rabbinate in Constantinople, where Toldoth Yitzchak was first published in 1518. Its extreme popularity is evidenced by the fact that two editions were published in the same year of 1558 (Riva di Trento and Mantua). See EJ, V col. 193.



Lot 120



121 KARO, JOSEPH Shulchan Aruch [code of Jewish law]. With commentary by Moses Isserles (ReM" A). Four parts (from two different Cracow editions) bound into one volume. Each part with individual title set within arch. Scholarly marginalia and early ownership inscriptions. * Part I: Orach Chaim. ff. 201 (i.e. 110). Cracow, 1585-86. * Part II. Yoreh Deah. ff. 114. Cracow, 1583-84. * Part III: Choshen Mishpat. ff. 136. Cracow, 1593. * Part IV: Even Ha'ezer. ff. 66. Cracow, 1593. *Variouly stained, browned, upper corners of several leaves repaired affecting text. Modern elaborately blind-tooled calf (identifying editions are erroneously recorded on spine). Housed in custom slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd Cracow 88 and 163.]

Cracow, Isaac Prostitz, 1583-1586, 1593. **\$10,000-15,000**

⚠️ **THIS EDITION OF THE ORACH CHAIM IS UNRECORDED BY VINOGRAD.**

The Rem" a is considered to be the greatest Halachic authority and codifier in Poland. His contemporaries looked to him as the "Maimonides of Polish Jewry" in his methodical approach, manner of study, character and humility. These glosses to Yoseph Karo's Shulchan Aruch are also known as the "Mapah" - or, "Table-cloth" to Yoseph Karo's "Prepared Table." It resulted in the universal acceptance of the the Shulchan Aruch in both Aschkenazic and Sephardic hemispheres. The Rema's contribution added supplements, explanations and Aschkenazic / Polish customs and practices pertaining to all walks of life, which were not included, or differed from the practices cited by Yoseph Karo. The Rema's rulings are considered binding on Aschkenazic Jews worldwide.

122 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). *Sepher HaShorashim* ["Book of Roots" - lexicon to the Bible] Second edition. Edited by Samuel ben Meir Latif. Text in square Hebrew typeface, Biblical references in sidebars in rabbinic type. ff. 120 (of 144). Lacking ff. 73-81, provided in facsimile: ff. 2-4, 9, 70, 98, 137-144. *Quires vii and viii reversed as called for by Iakerson. Stained in places, occasional marginalia, few leaves strengthened, occasionally affecting text, worming and marginal tears repaired. Edges tinted red. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio.* [Vinograd, Naples 12; Steinschneider, col. 873, no. 43; Thes. A-66; Goff Heb-39; Offenbergl 105; BMC XIII, p. 62; Iakerson 53.]

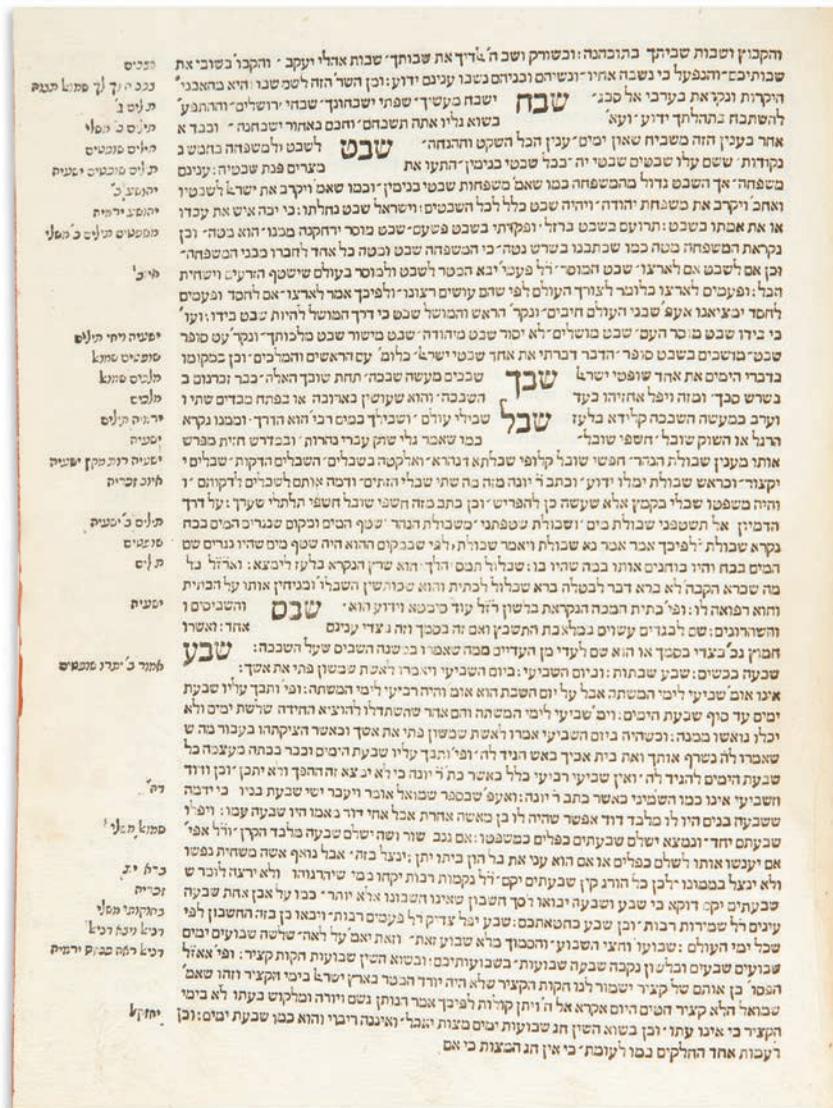
Naples, [Azriel ben Joseph Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser], 1490. **\$8000-12,000**

R. David Kimchi (1160? -1235?), also known by the acronym (RaDa"K), was the most prominent grammarian of the Hebrew language in the medieval period, surpassing all others in simplicity, comprehensiveness, and methodical presentation of the subject matter. Kimchi was born in Provence after his father fled the Almohad persecutions in Spain. Both his father and brother were accomplished grammarians in their own right and Kimchi's own philological writings would owe a great deal to their early influence.

This work was originally part of a longer grammatical treatise, called *Michlol*. The first section, *Chelek HaDikduk* (grammar) retained the title *Michlol*, while the second section, *Chelek Ha'Inyan* (lexicon), would become known as *Sepher HaShorashim*, a glossary of Hebrew and Aramaic words. The title derives from the layout of the text, where the root letters of individual words are printed in large bold letters followed by philological explanations and biblical citations. It was due to the popularity of both *Michlol* and *Sepher HaShorashim* that most of the works of Kimchi's predecessors fell into disuse. Circulating in manuscripts for more than three centuries after his death, Kimchi's philological writings became the primary grammatical text for the study of Hebrew and biblical vocabulary for centuries to come. With the advent of printing, *Sepher HaShorashim* was brought to press three times during the 15th century alone, first in Rome, and twice in Naples. As a result, Kimchi's work became readily accessible to a much broader constituency than he could have imagined and *Sepher HaShorashim* became the most-used reference tool for the study of biblical vocabulary through the 15th and 16th centuries for Jews and Christians alike.

Samuel ben Meir Latif, the editor of this volume, began his career in the nascent field of Hebrew printing as a proofreader at the first Soncino press, before bringing his talents to the Gunzenhausers in Naples. It is perhaps somewhat ironic that the Soncinos would also relocate to Naples at around the same time as this volume appeared and within six months had issued their own edition of the *Sepher HaShorashim* (see next lot). Near the end of his life in 1514, Latif was printing in his own name at Mantua.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 46.



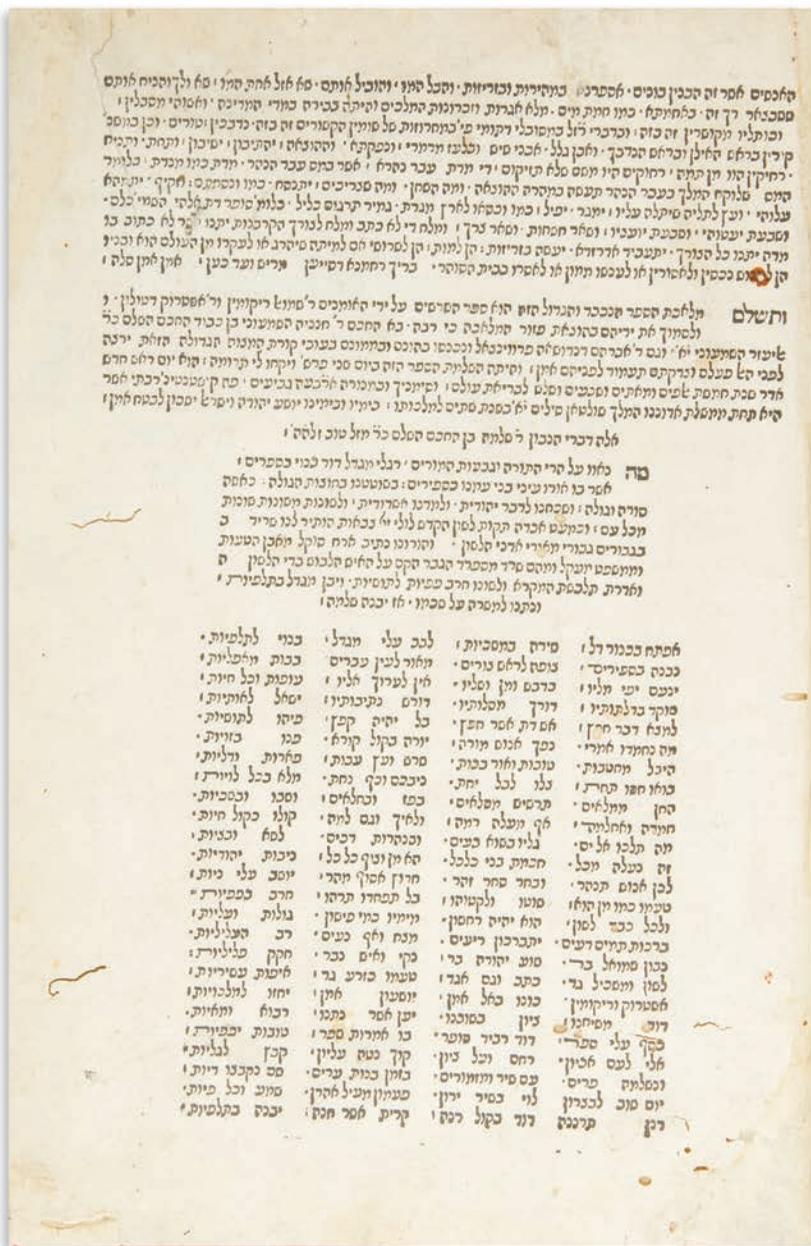


123 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). Sepher HaShorashim ["Book of Roots" - lexicon to the Bible] Third edition. Title page within elaborate historiated woodcut border depicting floral motifs, cherubs and a lion. Printed in two columns. Square Hebrew type, excepting names of Biblical books and pericopes in rabbinic type. Entirely complete, including the final rare leaf following the colophon. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 168. Title page mounted affecting a few letters of text, some losses to the elaborately decorative frame, ff. 1-6 laid to size, previous owner's marks, text supra-lined ff. 2-15, ff. 167-8 remargined, stained in places, corners rounded, some infilled. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco, titles gilt on spine. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Naples 19; Steinschneider, col. 873, no. 44; Thes. A-69; Goff Heb-40; Offenberg 106; BMC XIII, p. 58; Iakerson 59.]

Naples, [Joshua Solomon ben Israel Nathan Soncino], 1491. **\$25,000-30,000**

✪ By the time this work came to press, Joshua Soncino had been expelled from the town of Soncino and settled in Naples where he competed directly with the printing establishment of the Gunzenhausers. He was aided in the production of this volume by Isaac ben Judah Quatorze, whose name appears in some copies in the colophon (f. 167v). The present copy makes no mention of Quatorze and has additional typographical variants on ff. 2,3,7,8,53.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 42.



124 **KIMCHI, DAVID** (RaDa"K). *Sefer HaShorashim*. Complete **VARIANT EDITION** with blank title-page (as noted by Yudlov in the Mehlman catalogue). Another variant is the size of the first word "Amar" on f. 1b - here, the same font size as the following words, in most other copies it is a larger size. Printed in three columns. Former owners' signatures and inscriptions on opening leaf, including Saul David...Segal Ish Mortara. ff. 132. *Stained in places, slight worming on a few leaves, marginal repair to opening two leaves. Modern exquisitely blind-tooled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio.* [Vinograd, Const. 37; Mehlman 1253; St. Cat. Bodl. 4821, 45 (ed. rara).]

Constantinople, Samuel Rikomen & Astruc de Toulon, 1513. **\$7000-9000**

• The Provençal exegete and grammarian R. David Kimchi was a life-long anti-Christian polemicist. Most famous in this respect are his *Teshuvot LaNotzrim* (Responses to Christians), culled from his commentary to Psalms. However, a trace of the anti-Christian polemic is also to be found in his *Sefer HaShorashim*. Under the entry "elem" (f. 87a, bottom of third column), quoting his father R. Joseph Kimchi, the author derides the Christian assertion that the word "almah" (a young girl) in Isaiah 7:14 refers to a virgin birth (parthenogenesis). Remarkably, the passage has survived intact in our copy. In other copies consulted, the offending lines were struck by the ever-watchful censor.



Lot 126

125 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). Sepher HaShorashim. Another edition. Printed in two columns. ff. (1), 5-570 cols., pp. 3. Two leaves supplied in facsimile (f. 2:8 and f. 16:6), discolored, opening leaf repaired. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 140.]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg, 1529. **\$600-900**

126 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). Sepher HaShorashim. Another edition. Title within woodcut architectural arch. Printed in two columns. Hebrew words occasionally provided with nikud (vowel points). Sidebars with Latin equivalents. Initial words within woodcut design. Marginal reference to Shada'l on col. 320. ff. 137. Lightly browned. Later gilt-tooled morocco over heavy wooden boards, clasps and hinges, expertly rebaked. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 330.]

Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1546-47. **\$500-700**

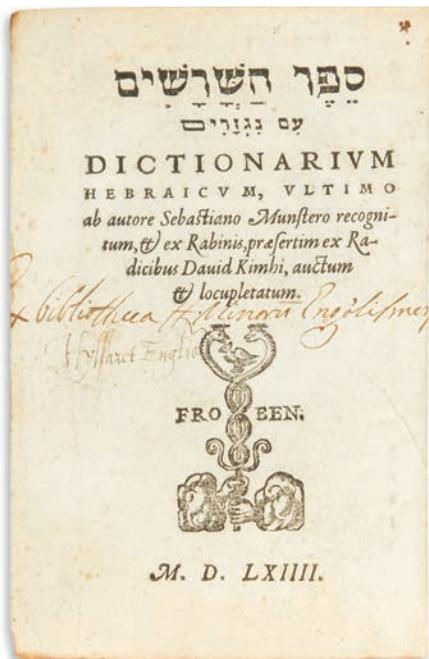
✦ Unusually, this edition of Kimchi's fundamental lexicographical work explicitly uses the word "Notzrim" and similar references to Gentiles.

127 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). Sepher HaShorashim. Another edition. Title within woodcut architectural arch. ff. 143, (1). Inscriptions on title, foxed. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 298]

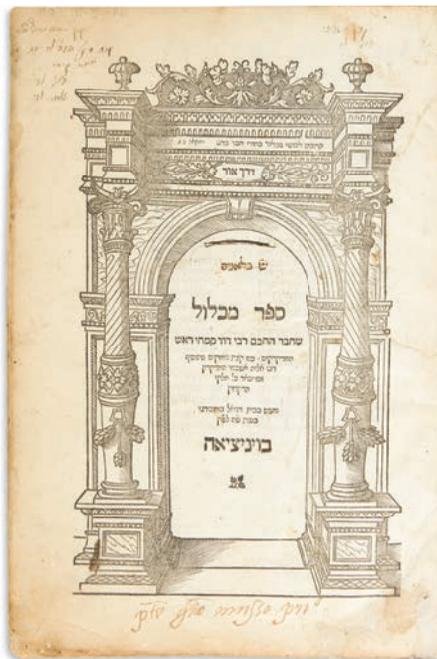
Venice, Daniel Bomberg, 1546. **\$500-700**



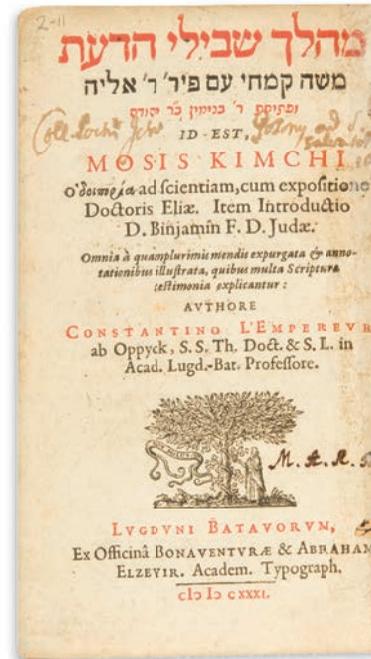
Lot 127



Lot 128



Lot 129



Lot 130

128 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). Sopher HaShorashim. - Dictionarium Hebraicum. Translated into Latin by **SEBASTIAN MÜNSTER**. Latin interspersed with Hebrew. Reads from right to left. Paginated in an early, neat hand. Manuscript index at end. ff. (496). *Lightly discolored, previous owner's marks on title. Later calf, rehinged, worn. Thick 8vo.* [Vinograd, Basle 109; Prijs, 112.]

Basle, Froben, 1564. **\$400-600**

✦ Münster translated Kimchi's Sopher HaShorashim from Hebrew to Latin, all the while embellishing upon the original.

129 KIMCHI, DAVID (RaDa"K). Sopher Michlol [grammar]. Edited by Elijah Levita. Title within architectural arch. ff. 69. *Lightly stained, signatures of various members of the Levy family on title-page. Modern blind-tooled morocco, housed in slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 245.]

Venice, Cornelio Adelkind for Daniel Bomberg, 1545. **\$600-900**

✦ The Michlol was David Kimchi's chief grammatical work. It treats verbs comprehensively, covering the rules governing changes of pronunciation and accents. It also contains complete tables of conjugations and is distinguished by its conciseness and clarity of style. Indeed, these qualities resulted in the Michlol's supremacy over previous works. For centuries it was considered preeminent in its field. See M. Waxman, Vol. I, p. 179.

130 KIMCHI, MOSES. Mahalach Shevilei HaDa'ath [grammar]. With super-commentary by Elijah Levita and an introduction by Benjamin ben Judah. With Latin translation and notes by Constantin L'Empereur. Title printed in red and black. Printer's device on title. Opening blank annotated. pp. (16), 256, (16). *Browned. Modern blind-tooled morocco. 12mo.* [Vinograd, Leiden 36; Willems 355.]

Leiden, (Bonaventura and Abraham) Elzevier, 1631. **\$400-600**



131 KOL BO. ["Omnia in Eo:" compendium of Jewish Law]. (Attributed to Aaron HaKohen of Lunel). **FIRST EDITION.** Table of Contents are bound here at the start of the volume. ff. 176 (of 179). *Provided in facsimile are ff. 1, 5-6. Leaves 2-4 laid down with loss of text, separate additional facsimile of f. 179, also a 16th century manuscript of f. 179; censor's signature dated 1575, on f. 178v, indicating the loss of the original folio 179 (now replaced from another copy) before that date. Several leaves remargined or strengthened, some from a shorter copy. Lightly stained, some ink biting at censored words or phrases, scattered marginalia. Edges tinted red. Modern blind-tooled paneled morocco, titles gilt on spine. Housed in custom slipcase. Folio. * Three additional typographical variant folios (ff. 10, 12, 79) tipped in at end.* [Vinograd, Italy 5; Goff Heb-67; Steinschneider, col. 555, no. 3589; Thes. A-94; Offenberg 81; BMC XIII, p. 78; Iakerson 78.]

(Italy [Naples?], Printer unknown, (ca. 1490-1492). **\$15,000-20,000**

• Written in the late 13th or beginning of the 14th century, the Kol Bo contains 148 sections dealing with blessings, prayer, the synagogue, Sabbath, holidays, marriage, monetary matters, forbidden foods, and mourning; it also includes one of the earliest commentaries to the Passover Hagadah. The identity of the author remains unknown, although scholars have suggested a relationship between this work and the Orchoth Chaim of Aaron HaKohen of Lunel. Identical language in the two works caused several important rabbinic scholars such as Joseph Karo and Chaim Joseph David Azulai to suggest that Kol Bo is an abridgment of that work. The bibliographer Isaac Ben-Yaacov went so far as to suggest that the Kol Bo was an earlier working of the Orchoth Chaim.

The dating of this first printed edition of Kol Bo has long intrigued scholars and A. K. Offenbergs study of the watermarks in several copies suggests a date of 1491-92. However, in a copy sold at auction in 2013 (Sothebys, December 17, Lot 123), contemporaneous hand-written Hebrew genealogical notes appear on an accompanying free endpaper and bear the date 1490, suggesting the possibility of the Kol Bo having been printed at least one year earlier than previously believed.

See M. Steinschneider, *Catalogus Librorum Hebraeorum* (1852-60) *Addenda et Corrigenda*, col. LXXXIII; M. Marx, *Studies in Bibliography and Booklore* 1:1 (1953) p. 37, no. 38; A.K. Offenbergs, *The Dating of the Kol Bô: Watermarks and Hebrew Bibliography in his A Choice of Corals: Facets of Fifteenth-Century Hebrew Printing* (1992) pp. 59-88.

See *Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables* no. 51.



Lot 133

132 KOL BO. ["Omnia in Eo:" compendium of Jewish Law]. (Attributed to Aaron HaKohen of Lunel). Second edition. ff. 164. Leaves provided in facsimile: ff. 1-13, 16-18, 88, 158-164. Closely trimmed, many marginal repairs with loss of text. Modern blind-tooled morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Const. 120; Mehlman 745.]

Constantinople, (Yom Tov b. Raphael Zichri), 1519. **\$2000-3000**

133 KOL BO. ["Omnia in Eo:" compendium of Jewish Law]. (Attributed to Aaron HaKohen of Lunel). Third edition. Title with prominent printers mark depicting the Tower of Rimini on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 6). Initial letters of opening word within white-on-black decorative vignettes surrounded by historiated engraved border. Signatures on title-page. **AN ATTRACTIVE, WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 164. Censor's signatures at end, occasional staining, title page neatly remargined. Modern calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Rimini 7.]

Rimini, Gershom Soncino, 1525-26. **\$8000-12,000**

Exhibited by the Pierpont Morgan Library, see their catalogue: Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust (1989) no. 25.

Because of the pernicious activity of the Dominicans, the printer Soncino had been forced to leave Pesaro. The City of Rimini offered hospitality and enabled Sonico to resume printing there. In gratitude he adopted as his bookmark the Tower of Rimini, flanking it with a motto from Proverbs "A Tower of Strength is the Lord; in it shall Run the Righteous and be Saved" - this was the very first Hebrew printer's mark to appear in Italy. See Amram, The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy, p.130.



Lot 134

134 KOLON, JOSEPH. (MaHaRY"K). Shailoth U'Teshuvoth [responsa]. Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. (12), 173 (i.e. 172). Lightly browned, dampwrinkled, signed by censors at end. Modern calf. Folio. [Vinograd Cremona 17; Mehlman 773.]

Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1557. **\$700-900**

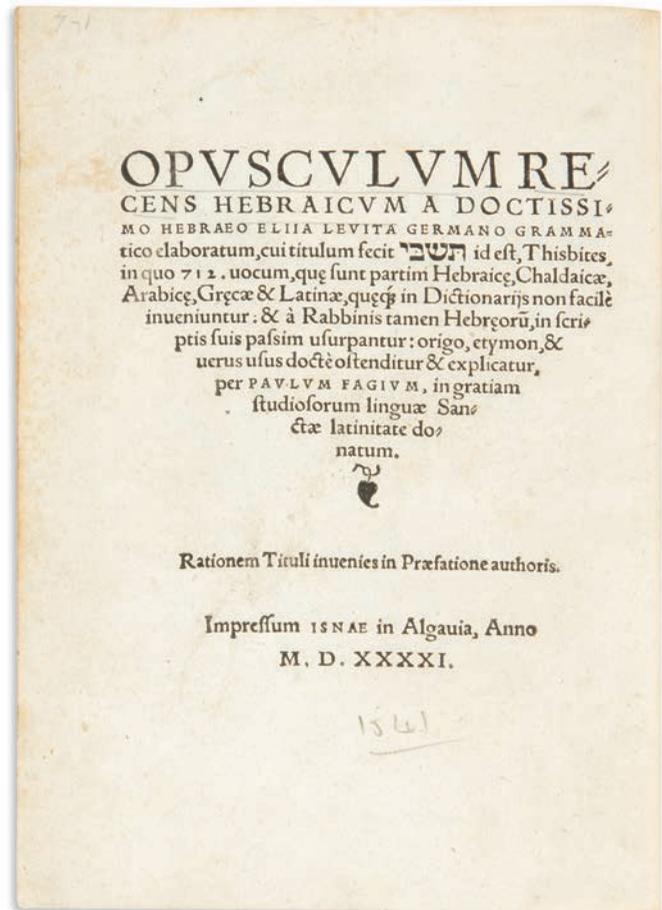
• With an improved index not included in the first edition, based upon the work of R. Chiya Meir ben David (editor of Bomberg's Talmud), according to the order of Maimonides' Mishneh Torah and with general notes relating to Minhag.

The MaHaRY"K (1420-80) was the foremost Talmudic scholar during the second half of the 15th-century whose opinions on Halachic matters were sought across the European Continent.

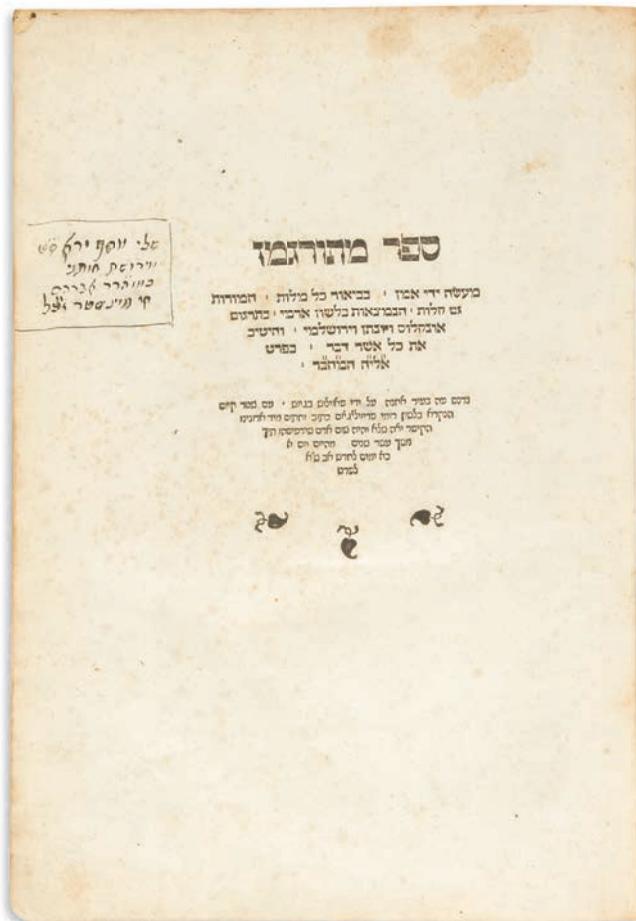
135 LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR. Opusculum Recens Hebraicum... Sopher HaTishbi [lexicon of Hebrew words in the Talmud, Midrash and Hebrew of the Middle-Ages] **FIRST EDITION.** Text in Hebrew and Latin with numerous words in Yiddish and Judeo-Italian. Hebrew title page follows the Latin introduction. Latin initials historiated. Fagius' woodcut device on last leaf. Marginalia. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** pp. (24), 271 (i.e. 378), (5). Under-linings, some dampstaining. Modern crushed morocco. 4to. [Vinograd, Isny 9.]

Isny, Paulus Fagius, 1541. **\$800-1200**

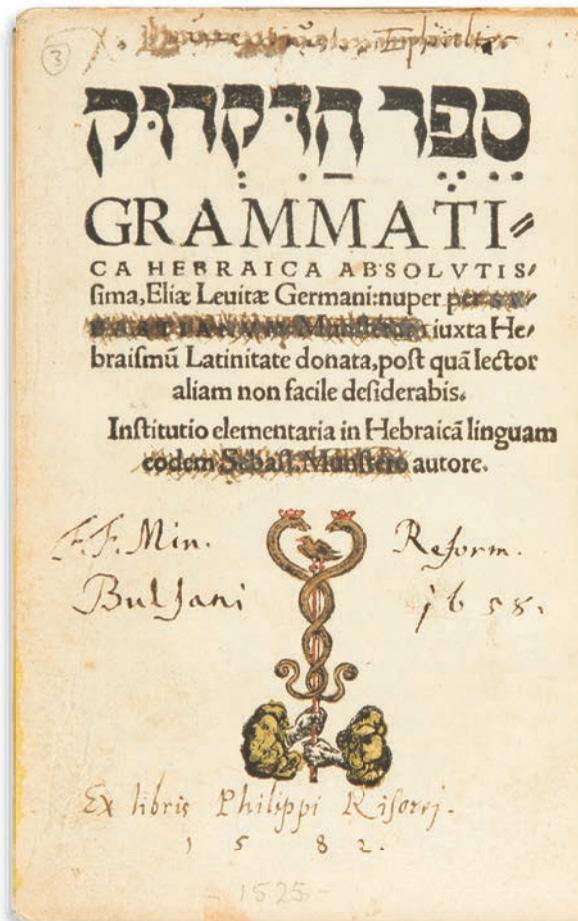
• A typically thorough linguistic investigation by this remarkable Hebrew philologist. This copy contains the rare page (151) discussing Christological issues that was excised from most all copies. See Heller, The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book, p. 261.



Lot 135



Lot 136



Lot 137

136 LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR. Sefher Meturgeman [Aramaic dictionary]. **FIRST EDITION.** The Hebrew only issue. Woodcut printer's device on final leaf. Inscription on title stating the volume was received by the owner's father-in-law, Abraham Meinster. Learned marginalia throughout. *ff.* (4), 164, (2). *Lightly foxed, dampstained in places, censor's signatures. Modern blind-tooled calf. Folio.* [Vinograd, Isny 5.]

Isny, Paulus Fagius, 1541. **\$1000-1500**

• A dictionary of the Aramaic words found in the Targumim: Jonathan, Onkelos and Jerusalem. In his introduction, Levita delves into the authorship of Targum Jerusalem to Pentateuch and Writings, as well as matters pertaining to the composition and dating of the various Aramaic translations of the Bible.

The previous owner, Abraham Meinster, was a student of R. Samuel Luzzatto (SHaDa'L) and later, Rabbi in the Italian towns of Viadana and Rovigo.

137 LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR. Sefher HaDikduk - Grammatica Hebraica. * Sefher Habachur - Liber Electus. * Luach HaBinyanim - Tabula Omnium Hebraicarum. Introduction and translation into Latin by Sebastian Münster. **FIRST EDITION IN LATIN.** Three parts in one. Hebrew with Latin on facing pages. Introduction and translation into Latin by Sebastian Münster. Printer's mark on first title and repeated. Additional title-pages. Opening four blank pages annotated written in an elegant hand in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. Early signatures on title, marginalia, underlinings in red. *ff.* (200). *Lightly browned. Modern blind-tooled calf. 12mo.* [Vinograd, Basle 16; Priejs, Basle 18.]

Basle, Johannes Froben, 1525. **\$700-900**

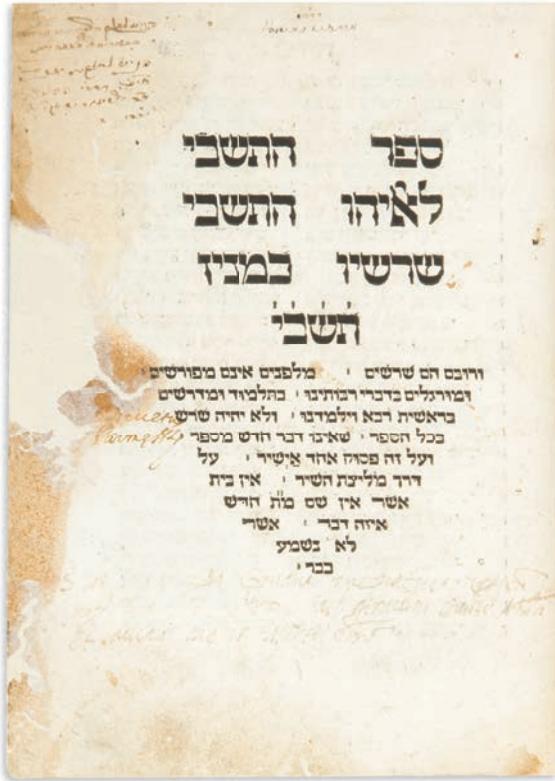
• A previous owner evidently had an aversion to Sebastian Munster, as his name is noticeably crossed out wherever it appears on the title.

138 LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR. Sefher HaTishbi [dictionary] Printer's woodcut device on last leaf (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks no. 13). *ff.* (100). *Inscriptions on title, opening leaves with repaired worming affecting few words, trace dampstained. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. 4to.* [Vinograd, Isny 8.]

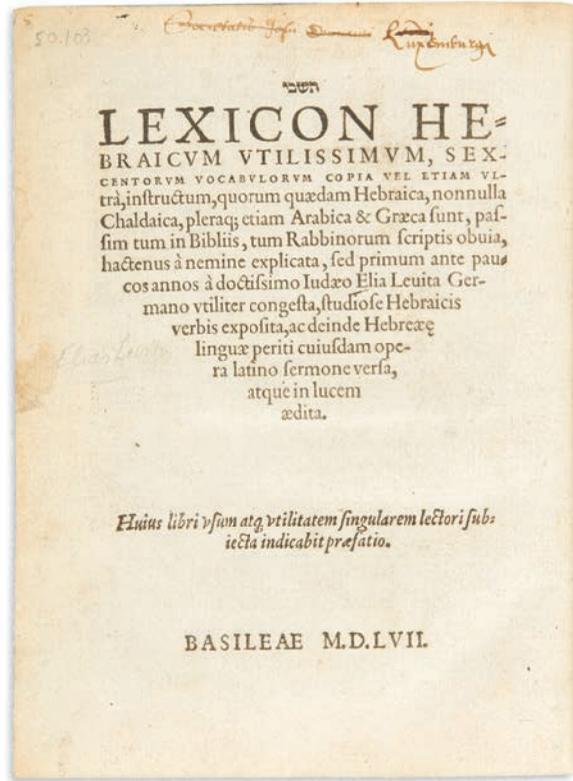
Isny, Paulus Fagius, 1541. **\$700-900**

• The work was printed simultaneously in two issues: Hebrew-Latin, and the present issue, entirely in Hebrew.

[See illustration overleaf]



Lot 138



Lot 139

139 LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR. Tishbi - Lexicon Hebraicum Utilissimum. Hebrew and Latin on facing pages. Fagius printer's device at end. *Mispaginated. Lightly discolored, previous owner's marks. Modern calf. 4to.* [Vinograd, Basle 97; Prijs, Basle 100.]

Basle, 1557. **\$400-600**

⦿ A Basle(?) re-issue of the original Isny edition, here with a new title page and introduction.

140 LEVITA, ELIJAH BACHUR. Sefher HaBachur- Liber Gramaticae. Signature on title-page of Ya'akov Altheim. *ff. (80). Lightly worn and stained. Modern gilt-tooled calf. 12mo.* [Vinograd, Mantua 29.]

Mantua, Jacob ben Naphtali Hakohen of Gazolo, 1556. **\$500-700**



Lot 140



141 (LITURGY). Seder Tephilot mikol HaShanah [prayers for the whole year] **PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** According to Ashkenazic rite. With instructions in Yiddish. Title within architectural arch. Opening of Adon Olam (f. 2a) and initial letters of Pirkei Avoth (f. 257a) historiated. Bound into two volumes. Portion of the Aleinu prayer censored (f. 280a). ff. 352. Title and final page abraded, few leaves occasionally worn or stained. Modern calf with clasps and hinges. Housed in custom slip-case. 12mo. [Vinograd, Mantua 55; St. Cat. Bodl. 2084 (Ed. hic terrarum rarissima); Freimann, Pergamentdrucke ZfHB Vol. 15 no. 84.]

Mantua, Venturino Roffinello for Meir b. Ephraim and Yaakov b. Naphtali, 1558. **\$80,000-120,000**

• **A COMPLETE EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM. OF EXCEPTIONAL SCARCITY.**

A complete Ashkenazic Siddur for all festivals and occasions including special Yotzroth for Brith Milah and Weddings. Also with a Hagadah for Passover, as well as the complete Pirkei Avoth.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Vellum no. 25.



142 (LITURGY). Machzor [prayers for the entire year]. According to Roman rite. **FIRST EDITION.** Two volumes. * Vol. I: Weekday, Sabbath, Rosh Chodesh, Chanukah, Purim, Four Parshiyoth, Pesach, (including Passover Hagadah), Ethics of the Fathers Shavu'oth, Fast Days, Tisha B'Av and Shabbath Nachamu. * Vol. II: Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukoth, Simchath Torah and related laws and customs. Prayers are printed in square type, instructions and laws are printed in rabbinic type. Initials floriated; the word "Matzah" in the Hagadah is floriated on a round seder plate (Vol. I on quire 9, 8a); initial "Hoshanah" (on quire 15, 5b) floriated and between fleur-de-lis devices. * Vol. I: ff. 155 (of 166). ff. 1, 6, 99-104, 116, 153, 166 provided in facsimile; f. 163 provided from the Fano edition. * Vol. II: ff. 146 (of 154). ff. 147-54 provided in facsimile. *A made-up copy, many leaves remargined, variously stained, previous owner's notations, wine and wax stains in Hagadah section, few paper repairs, few words lost on opening leaf of Vol. II. Modern uniform blind-tooled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio.* * Six leaves from the Fano Machzor are appended at the end of Vol. I. [Vinograd, Soncino 12; Goff Heb-73; Offenberg 83; Steinschneider, col. 393, no. 2576; Thes. A-37; Iakerson 30; Y. Yudlov, HaMachzorim HaRishonim Keminhag Roma in: Kiryath Sepher Vol. 64, (1992-93) pp. 1435-48.]

Soncino-Casal Maggiore, Soncino, 1485-6. **\$50,000-60,000**

וביום השלישי פרים עשתי עשר אילים שנים כבשים בני שנה ארבעה עשר תמ
 המימים: וביום הרביעי פרים עשרה אילים שנים כבשים בני ארבעה עש
 עשר תמימים: ובגתם וגומר ואומר כהעפת ליום שלישי לחול המועד
וביום הרביעי פרים עשרה אילים שנים כבשים בני שנה ארבעה עשר תמימים ו
 וביום החמישי פרים תשעה אילים שנים כבשים בני שנה ארבעה עשר ת
 תמימים ובגתם וגומר ואומר כאילו
וביום החמישי פרים תשעה אילים שנים כבשים בני שנה ארבעה עשר תמימים
 וביום הששי פרים שבעה אילים שנים כבשים בני שנה ארבעה עשר תמ
 תמימים ובגתם וגומר ואומר כהעפת ליום חמישי והוא יום ערבה
וביום הששי פרים שבעה אילים שנים כבשים בני שנה ארבעה ע
 עשר תמימים ובגתם ונסכודם וגומר
 ומגלים תפלת ווסף ונחנו להוציא כל הספרי תורות והארוך עד טאמרו כל הוועבנות ומקוטים טכנה פ
 פעמים עם לולב וערבה בידם ואומ'



למעןך	אלהי האלקים	הושענא	למעןך	אדני האדונים	הושענא
למעןך	אלקים חיים	הושענא	למעןך	צור עולמים	הושענא
למעןך	אדני עליונים	הושענא	למעןך	אלהי תחתונים	הושענא
למעןך	מוך מלכי המלכים	הושענא	למעןך	מושל בכל יצורים	הושענא
למעןך	בחייה המתים	הושענא	למעןך	רופא חולים	הושענא
למעןך	כתיר אסורים	הושענא	למעןך	זוקף כפופים	הושענא
למעןך	עשה משפט לעשוקים	הושענא	למעןך	עונה ממועבקים	הושענא
למעןך	כשפיל נאים	הושענא	למעןך	שובן שחקים	הושענא
למעןך	ברזנס שפלים	הושענא	למעןך	תומך תמימים	הושענא

• THE SONCINO MACHZOR, THE VERY FIRST HEBREW PRINTED PRAYER BOOK.

“This magnificent incunable is one of Soncino’s most outstanding productions. It is the first book fully vocalised and with woodcut headings all the way through the text. It is the only book printed in Casal Maggiore and took an entire year to print due to the complexity of the contents.” (Wineman Catalogue, no. 21).

The Roman rite, also known as the Italian, or “Lo’azim” rite, is rich in multifaceted piyutim. It originated in early medieval Rome and maintained a distinct identity. For a thorough, scholarly discussion of this rite, see Samuel David Luzzatto: Mavo LeMachzor Bnei Roma (1966). See also the facsimile of this Machzor with companion volume of studies, ably edited by Angelo Piattelli (Jerusalem, 2012).

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya’akov, Incunables no. 19.



Lot 143



Lot 144

143 (LITURGY). Tephilah kephi Minhag Roma [prayers for the entire year]. According to Roman rite. The Israel Mehlman copy with his notes on opening paste-down. ff. 282 (of 352). Various stained, many leaves remargined. Many leaves provided in facsimile (collation available upon request). Modern calf. Thick 12mo. [Vinograd, Bologna 9; Steinschneider, Cat. Bodl. no. 2074, col. 307.]

Bologna, Company of Silk Weavers, 1537-38. **\$2000-3000**

❖ **NO COMPLETE PAPER COPY OF THIS MACHZOR IS EXTANT.** For the vellum issue see Pierpont Morgan Library Catalogue, Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust (1989) no. 27.

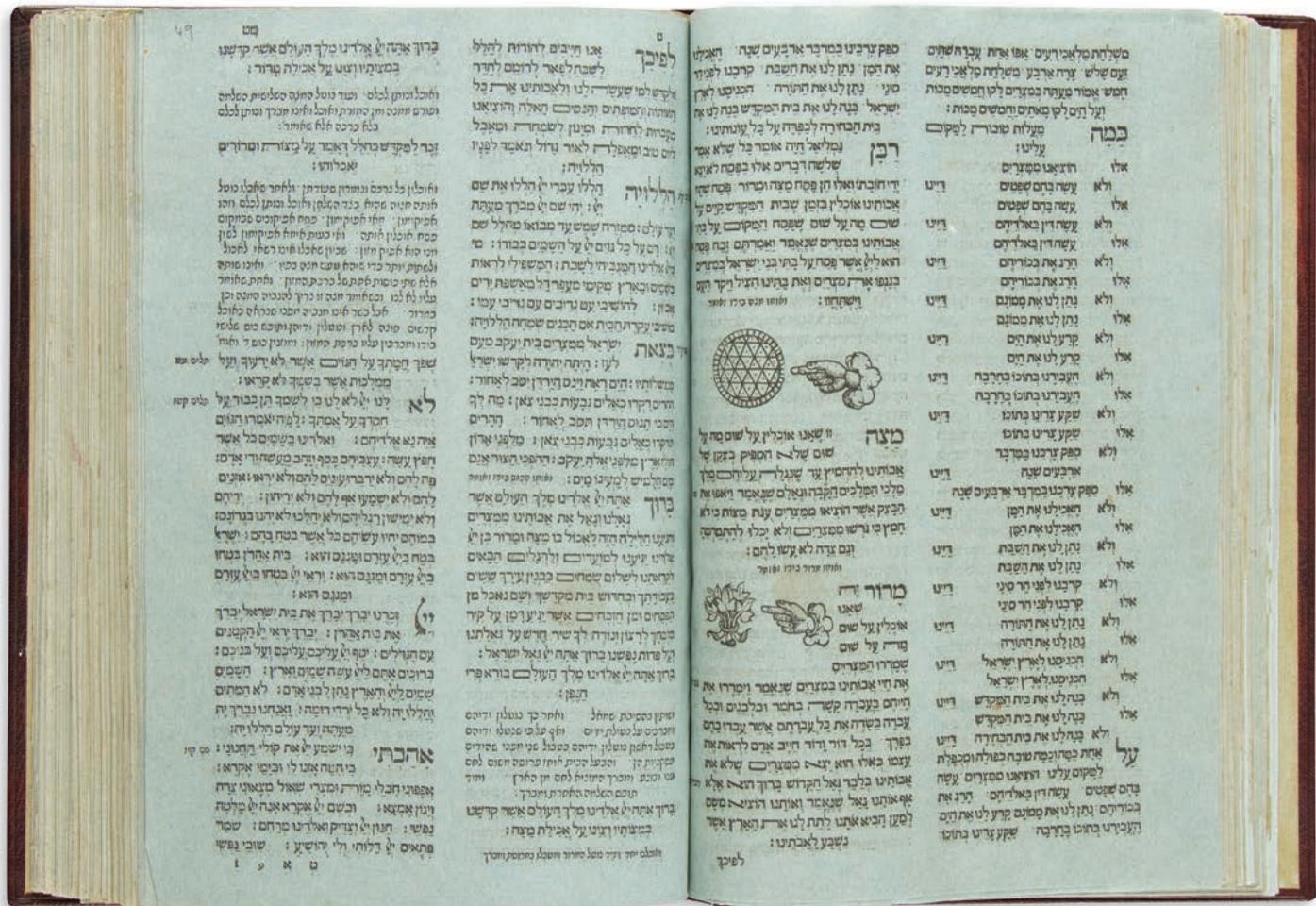
The second of only nine books printed by the Jewish Silk Weaver's Guild who operated a Hebrew Press at Bologna between 1537 and 1540. Each work was beautifully prepared, a tribute to the involvement of Jewish artisans and craftsmen in the formative years of Hebrew printing.

See S.C. Reif, Judaism and Hebrew Prayer (1993) pp. 164-66; Amram, The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy, pp. 232-35.

144 (LITURGY). Machzor. According to Roman rite. With Kimcha De'Avishona by Yochanan Treves and commentaries by Ovadiah Sforno and Moses Maimonides. Two volumes. Titles within elaborate frames, many initial letters within cartouches. Finely composed manuscript leaf added as the third to last folio of Vol. I comprising an elegy in accordance with the custom of community of Ferrara. Many marginal notes, especially in Vol. II in which additional piyutim are transcribed. Vol. I: ff. 200. * Vol. II: ff. 189. Various stained in places, several leaves remargined, new endpapers. Later calf, expertly rebaked. Folio. [Vinograd, Bologna 16.]

Bologna, Menachem ben Abraham of Modena & Partners, 1540. **\$4000-6000**

❖ Prayers for the entire year, including Passover Hagadah, Ethics of the Fathers along with the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Jonah and Ecclesiastes and various laws relating to birth, family purity, marriage, burial, etc. Includes the first appearance of Treves's commentary elucidating the subject matter of the prayers and the meaning and derivation of phrases. For a thorough, scholarly discussion of this Roman rite, see Samuel David Luzzatto, Mavo LeMachzor Bnei Roma, with notes and additional material by Daniel Goldschmidt and a bibliography by Y. Y. Cohen (Tel-Aviv, 1966).



145 (LITURGY). Machzor KeMinhag Roma [festival prayers for the entire year]. According to Italian rite. Includes Passover Hagadah, Ethics of the Fathers, Five Scrolls and laws relating to Festivals. DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER. Parts I and II bound in one volume. Title within architectural arch. Initial letters within cartouches, f.48b (Hagadah) with woodcut illustrations of cuffed hands pointing to Matzah and Bitter Herbs. Printed in two columns. Censors signatures on final leaf. THE SALMAN SCHOCKEN COPY. ff. 210. Opening two leaves silked, marginal repairs with small loss supplied in facsimile (opening six leaves, f. 127, final leaf), stained in places. Modern crushed morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Mantua 42; Y.Y. Cohen, Bibliographia shel Machzorim...Lephi Minhag Bnai Roma (1966), no. 9.]

Mantua, Jacob Cohen of Gazolo, 1557-60. \$6000-9000

• RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.

Although the title states "chelek rishon", in reality the Machzor contains Part II as well. The first part concludes at the end of the first column on f. 117 and Part II begins on the second column.

After having served at the press of Foa in Sabbioneta, Jacob Cohen of Gazolo came to Mantua in 1556 and over the following eight years established a "splendid record for good typographical work." D. Amram The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy, p. 325.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 13.



146 (LITURGY). Machzor mikol HaShanah [Festival prayers for the entire year]. According to the Aschkenazic rite. Two parts in one volume. Title within wreath-like decoration over architectural columns. On verso, printer's mark of Tobias Foa (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 21). Initials historiated. Many marginal annotations. Tipped in: Notes from the various Valmadonna consultants (the librarian, the binder and Prof. Abramsky). **A UNIQUE BIBLIOPHILIC COPY:** Eight leaves with variant textual layout additionally provided (and so indicated). ff. 394. *A made-up copy. Small loss on title, several leaves stained or with neat paper repairs. Modern cream boards. Housed in custom slip-case. Thick 4to.* [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 42 & Cremona 40; Benayahu, Cremona 28.]

Sabbioneta-Cremona-Venice, Tobias Foa-Vicenzo Conti-Giovanni di Gara, 1556-1560. **\$4000-6000**

✎ This important Aschkenazic Machzor took years to complete. Begun in Sabbioneta in the house of Tobias Foa, it was completed in Cremona on the eve of the New Year [5]321 (1560) by Vicenzo Conti (as explained in the colophon at the end of the volume). Folios 225-232 were printed in Venice as a variant section by di Gara.

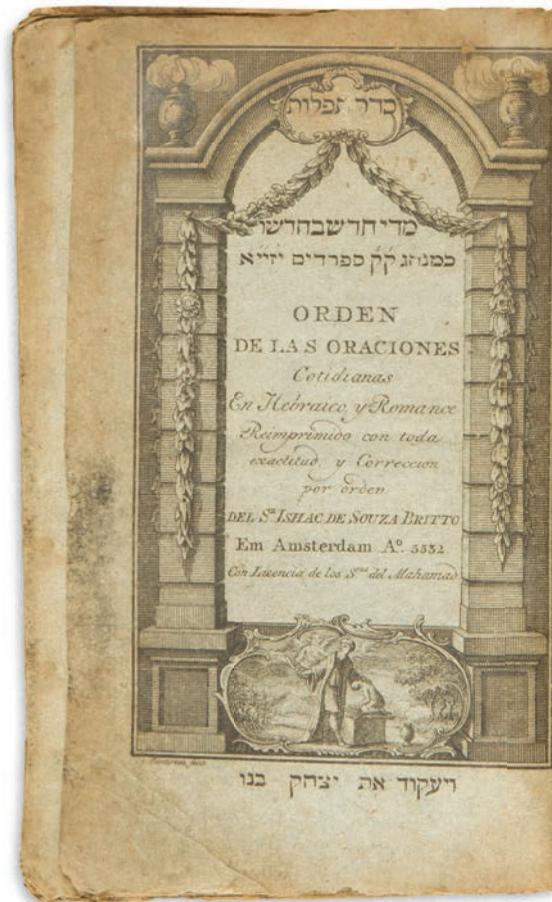
According to Meir Benayahu, this Machzor, as noted on the title, is a second edition of the Aschkenazic machzor printed earlier in Salonika in 1548-9 for use by the Italian Aschkenazic community of that city. However one of the novel additions to the present edition are the many kabbalistic commentaries to the prayers.

From a typographical perspective, the Sabbioneta Machzor is something of a mystery. Considering it was printed in different cities, clearly the transition was hardly seamless. The great bibliographers, such as Steinschneider, Sonne, and Berliner tried to make sense of the way in which various letters occur in the edition. Benayahu believed he found the demarcation line between Sabbioneta and Cremona. Signatures 1-36 (f.144), as well as signatures 38-39, are clearly Sabbioneta. From signature 40 (f.157) to the end is certainly Cremona. Signature 37 resembles neither Sabbioneta nor Cremona, and Benayahu reasoned that it is an imitation of the first, Salonikan edition.

To add to the puzzle, it seems that the second part of the Machzor went through two printings, each marked by slight variations. See Benayahu, Ha'Dephus Ha'Ivri BeCremona (1971), pp. 139-178.



Lot 147



Lot 148

147 (LITURGY). Sha'ar Bath Rabim [prayers for festivals]. According to Aschkenazi rite. With commentary Hadrath Kodesh by Isaac Segal of Herrlisheim. Introduction by Isaac Pacifico. Complete in two volumes. Titles within extravagant engraved borders. **WIDE-MARGINED COPY ON THICKER PAPER.** Signs of Zodiac on ff. 175-7. **CONSIDERABLE HEBREW MARGINALIA** written in a fine old Italki cursive hand especially in Vol. II, containing additions and instructions, especially seeking to specify which words to emphasize and say aloud, likely intended for a learned Hazan. *Vol I: ff. 360. Vol. II: ff. 384. Dampstained in places, trace wormed. Modern uniform calf-backed marbled boards. Lg. folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 1596.]

Venice, Bragadin, 1711-15. **\$3000-5000**

• This extraordinarily large Machzor was printed for the use of the Hazan at the request of the Aschkenazic congregations of a number of leading Italian communities: Venice, Padua, Rovigo, Verona, Mantua, Casale Monferrato, and Gorizia. Due to the enormous expense involved in this publishing endeavor, preceding the volume's customary rabbinic endorsements, two Italian magisterial documents appear, providing copyright protection for twelve years.

In his commentary, R. Isaac Segal, who served as cantor in the town of Herrlisheim, not only reflects upon the texts of the prayers, but also provides a compilation of laws and customs based upon Aschkenazic source material. Segal defends the recitation of the somewhat controversial piyut Malachei Rachamim – that beseeches God via the mediation of angels. The issue is treated at length by R. Isaac Lampronti in his encyclopedic work, Pachad Yitzchak, s.v. tzerachav. For a full discussion, see S. Sprecher “HaPulmus al Amirath Machnisei Rachamim” in: Yeshurun, Vol. III (1997) pp. 706-29.

148 (LITURGY, SPANISH). Seder Tephiloth... KeMinhag K.K. Sephardim / Orden de las Oraciones Cotidianas en Hebraico y Romance [daily prayers]. According to the Sephardic rite. **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Hebrew and Spanish on facing pages. Prepared by Ishac de Souza Britto. Engraved title by A. Santcroos depicting the Sacrifice of Isaac. Approbation of Haham Shelomo Salem. Dedication by the Editor to the magnate and art connoisseur Moses de Aaron de Pinto. List of subscribers. On ff. 8v, 9r, 270v and 271r Proop's printer device of hands extended in Priestly Benediction (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 120). *ff. (1), 5, 271. Lightly stained, new endpapers. Contemporary vellum, stained, modern morocco spine labels. 8vo.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 2020; Kayserling, p. 61.]

Amsterdam, Joseph, Jacob & Abraham, Sons of the late Solomon Proops, 1772. **\$1500-2000**

• **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 48.

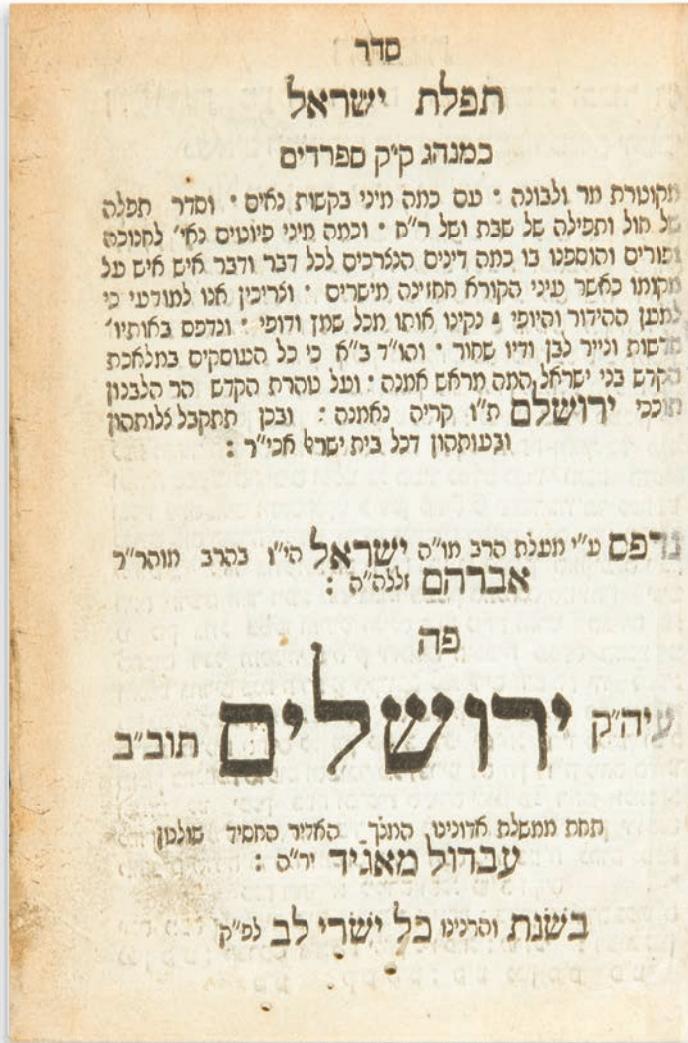


149 (LITURGY). Seder Tephilah mikol HaShanah [prayers through the year]. According to Sephardic custom. **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON RED-ROSE PAPER.** Kabbalistic device on f. 5. Final four leaves in Ladino. ff. 248 (lacking ff. 124-5). Touch worn, f. 123 and 126 taped at margins. Modern boards. 8vo. [Vinograd, Vienna 809.]

Vienna, Anton Schmid, 1838. **\$1500-2500**

• **EXCEPTIONAL, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON ROSE-COLORED PAPER.**

Very likely, a unique copy. See Valmadonna Trust, Treasures - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 91.



Lot 150



Lot 151

150 (LITURGY). Tephilath Yisrael [daily prayers]. According to Sephardic rite. Includes piyutim. Final leaf with calendar for the years 1843-46. ff. 152. *Lightly stained, trace wormed. Modern hunter-green crushed morocco tooled in gilt. 12mo.* [Vinograd, Jerusalem 13; Halevy 4.]

Jerusalem, Israel Bak, 1842. **\$5000-7000**

• **THE FIRST PRAYER BOOK PRINTED IN JERUSALEM.**

The publisher records here the hardships he endured in Safed (earthquake, famine, etc) and his relief in having now settled in the Holy City of Jerusalem.

151 (LITURGY). Group of four Dutch prayer-books according to Sephardic rite.

Seder Tephilah LeTa'anith. ff. 126. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1293]. * Seder HaTephiloth. ff. 192. [Vinograd, Amsterdam 1294]. **THREE COPIES.** One printed on Regale paper and bound with Kalendario Hebrayco. 1725. *All four volumes bound in contemporary gilt-tooled calf, two polished red, two dark tan. 8vo.*

Amsterdam, Naphtali Hertz Levi Rophé, 1726. **\$600-900**



Lot 152



Lot 153



Lot 154



Lot 155

152 LURIA, SOLOMON (MaHaRSHa"l). Shailoth U'Teshuvot [responsa] Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. 72 (i.e. ff. 70 - mispaginated). Browned and stained, title repaired. Modern blind-tooled calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Lublin 76.]

Lublin, Kalonymus ben Mordechai Jaffe, 1599. **\$800-1200**

R. Solomon Luria (1510-73) was arguably the greatest Polish rabbi of his day. He displayed surprising assertiveness and independence in his Halachic rulings, often castigating his rabbinical opponents. A purist, he was often unhappy with the state of rabbinic leadership in his time, noting that although many were ordained, few rabbis were knowledgeable enough to perform their duties appropriately.

The present responsa are historically important for the cultural life of the Jews of Poland and Lithuania - and include many examples of colloquial Old Yiddish.

153 LURIA, SOLOMON (MaHaRSHa"l). Atereth Shlomo [novellae to Isaac Dueren's Sha'arei Dura] **FIRST EDITION**. Signatures on title including Asher Luria. ff. 99. Trimmed, browned, f. 54 repaired. Modern blind-tooled morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Basle 194; Priejs, Basle 164.]

Basle, Konrad Waldkirch, 1599. **\$500-700**

154 LUSITANO, SAMUEL HACHOHEN OF PISA. Tzaphnath Pane'ach [commentary to the Books of Ecclesiastes and Job] **FIRST EDITION**. Title within typographical border, woodcut device on title (Ya'ari, Printers' Marks no. 59). ff.(2), 33 (i.e. 31). Dampstained, small tear to margin of f.3. Modern calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 1324.]

Venice, Giovanni Martinelli for Vendramin, (1640?/1656?) **\$300-500**



Lot 156



Lot 157

155 MALKIEL CHEZKIAH BEN ABRAHAM. Malkiel [philosophical conceptions of the Afterlife, reward and punishment etc.] **FIRST EDITION.** Title within decorative woodcut border. ff. 22. Title laid down, expert paper repairs, f. 2 with small loss, library call number in two places. Modern cream calf, slip-case. 8vo. [Vinograd, Thiengen 5.]

Thiengen, Eliezer Treves, 1560. **\$2000-3000**

• The author here discusses themes relating to the Garden of Eden and the Tree of Knowledge, Og King of Bashan and other enigmatic Aggadic materials.

The fifth of only seven Hebrew books printed between 1560-67 in this small German town (today known as Waldshut-Tiengen) situated along the Swiss border in the province of Baden-Württemberg. All Thiengen Hebrew imprints are scarce - indeed all are entirely unknown to Adams' comprehensive census of Hebrew Books held in Cambridge University Libraries.

156 MEINSTRASH, MOSES BEN SIMON OF VIENNA. Panim Masbiroth [commentary to Talmud Aggadah]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within typographic border. ff. (41). Browned and stained. Modern gilt-ruled crushed morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Prague 627.]

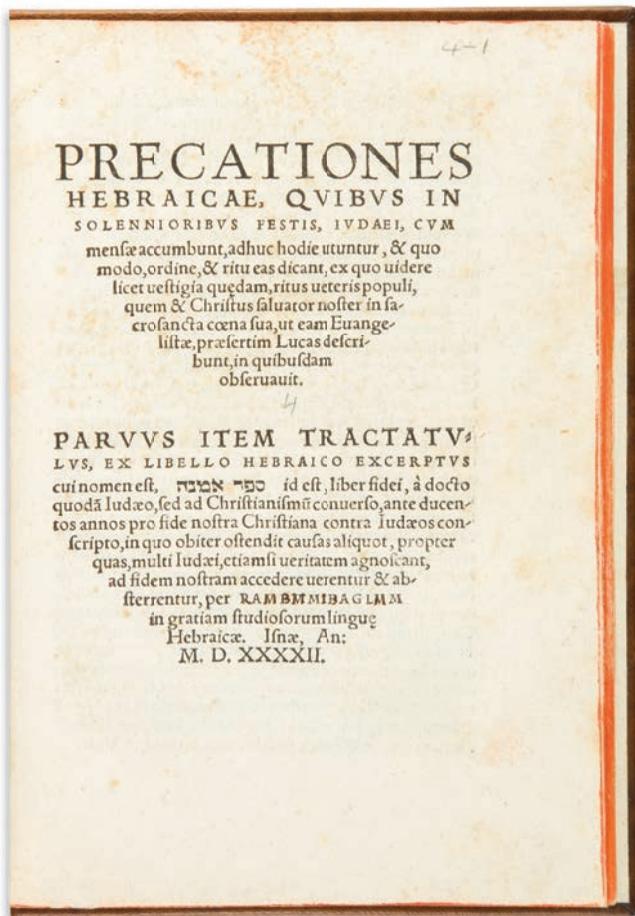
Prague, Grandsons of Moses Katz, 1693. **\$400-600**

• The only published work by this author who was a hazzan in Vienna, grandson of the renowned Be'er, hazzan of the Alte Schule. See Heller, The Seventeenth Century Hebrew Book, p. 1237.

157 MEIR OF ROTHENBURG. Shailoth U'Teshuvot MaHaRa"m Me'Rothenburg [responsa] **FIRST COMPLETE EDITION.** Including the Enactments of Rabbeinu Gershom. Title within historiated woodcut border incorporating printer's device (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 37). ff. 2, 5-114. Leaves 3-4 were destroyed during printing and are missing in all copies. Foxed and browned, previous owner's marks on title. Modern crushed morocco with central gilt devices on covers. Folio. [Vinograd, Prague 161; Mehlman 753.]

Prague, 1608. **\$800-1200**

• First complete edition containing 1,020 responsa by this supreme arbiter of Halachic authority in Germany.



Lot 158

158 (MESSIANISM). Precationes Hebraicae... [Birkath HaMazon] With excerpts from Sepher Amanah written by a Messianic Jew to prove the truth of his faith. Text in Hebrew and Latin. ff. (16). Lightly foxed, two small wormholes on final leaf. Modern morocco. 4to. [Vinograd, Isny 14; Mehlman 1909.]

Isny, Paulus Fagius, 1542. **\$1000-1500**

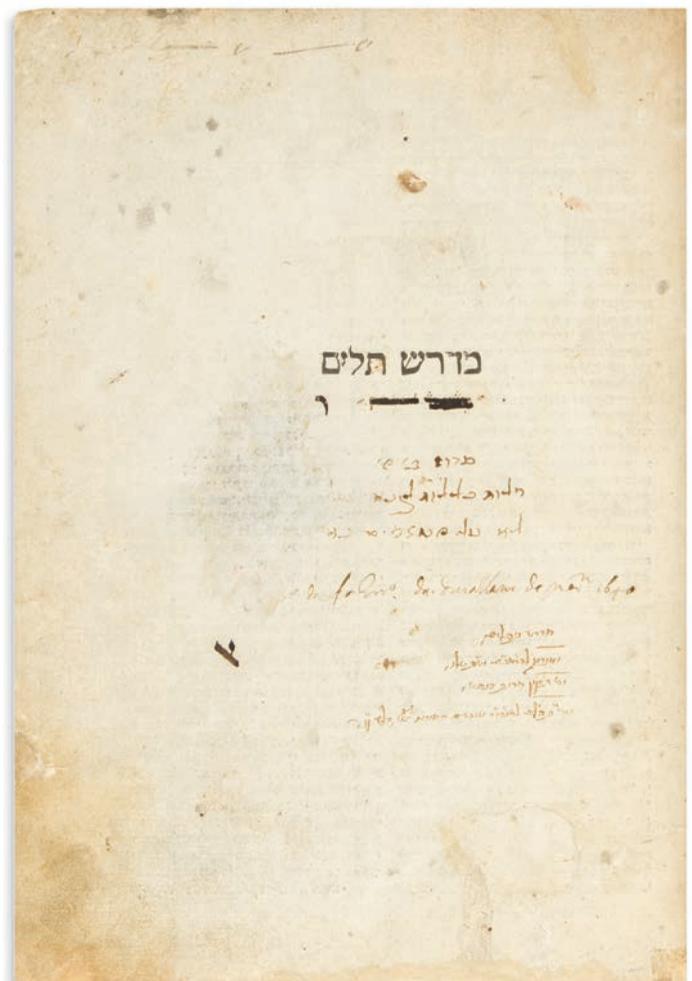
• Grace After Meals for Messianic Jews. What commences as a traditional Aschkenazic Grace After Meals (ff. 2-6), is followed by a Christological version of the same (ff. 7-10). In the appended tract (“Quid obstet iudæis quo minus credant”), the Author contends that what prevents Jews from accepting Christianity is the thorough social ostracism that is the fate of the apostate Jew.

According to a note written by Mehlman in the NLI copy of this work: “but one other copy is known to exist.”

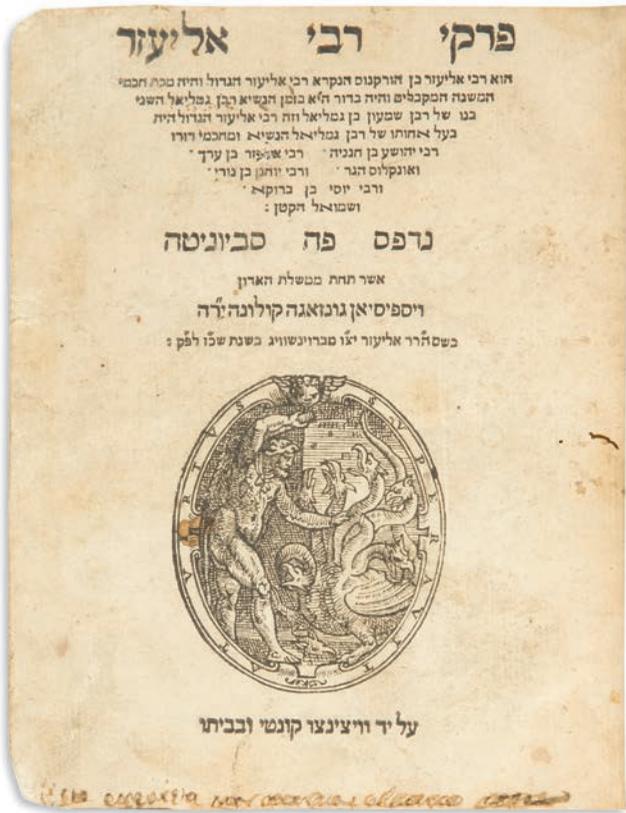
159 MIDRASH TEHILIM. [Midrashic commentary to the Book of Psalms]. Anonymous. **FIRST EDITION.** Few marginal notes. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 51. Lightly stained, censored, inscription on and with stamp removed from opening page, f. 46 with small hole, final leaf repaired with some loss. Modern blind-tooled calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Sm. folio. [Vinograd, Const. 36; Mehlman 173; St. Cat. Bodl. col. 595, no. 3788 “Ed Rara.”]

Constantinople, np, 1512. **\$10,000-15,000**

• The Midrash Tehilim, also known as Midrash Shocher-Tov due to its opening verse, is one of the most beautiful composed texts of Midrashic literature. Its exalted language covers many variegated themes and contains colorful stories and parables. Entitled “Midrash Tilim” (without the letter “Hei”), it concludes at Psalm chap. 118. The Midrash on Psalms chaps. 119-150 was published approximately three years later (bibliographers debate the exact imprint and date).



Lot 159



Lot 160

160 (MIDRASH). Pirkei Rebi Eliezer (Attributed to Rabbi Eliezer ben Hyrcanus, brother-in-law of Raban Gamliel). Printer's device on title (Yaari, Hebrew Printers Marks, no. 26). ff. 46. Worn and stained, signed by censors at end. Later limp vellum. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 54].

Sabbioneta, Vincenzo Conti, 1567. **\$700-900**

• Pirkei Rebi Eliezer aims to inculcate ethical teachings for daily life by demonstrating moral values deduced from the Biblical narrative. The works' style waxes poetic, especially concerning the coming of the Messiah, a subject to which many passages are devoted. "It cannot be said to be a strictly ethical book as it contains a good deal of extraneous matters, such as chapters on astronomy, the calculation of the calendar and many exotic legends." See M. Waxman, *History of Jewish Literature* Vol. I, pp. 144-5.

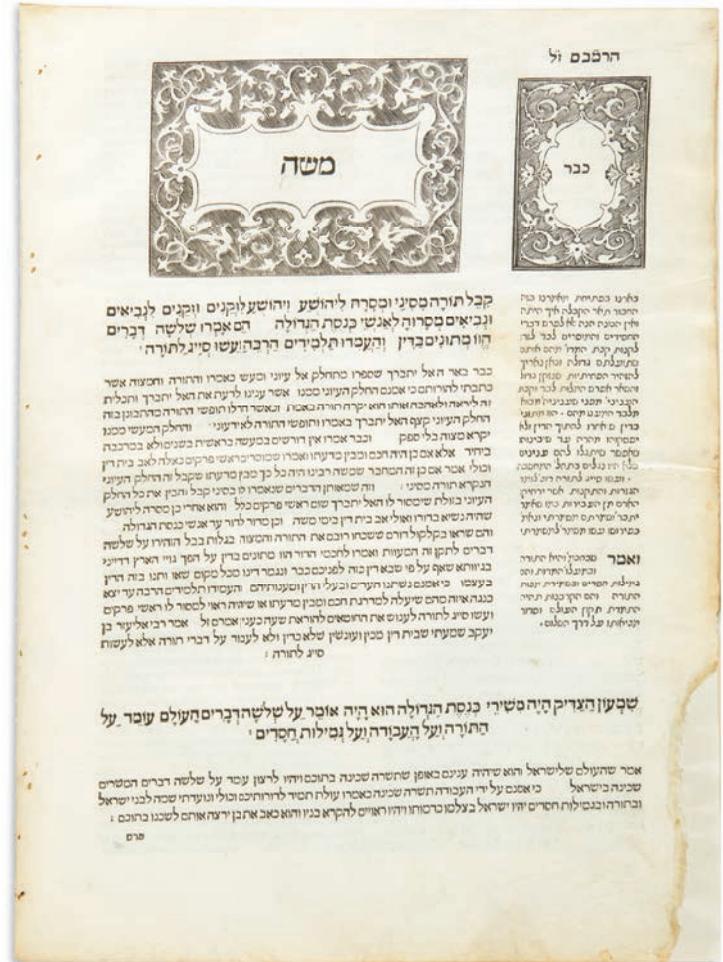
161 (MISHNAH). Pirkei Avoth [Ethics of the Fathers]. With commentaries by Moses Maimonides and Ovadiah Sforno.

Originally a part of the Bologna Machzor, issued in accordance to Roman rite. **PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Initial words set within elegant frame. Conservator's notes at end. Formerly, the Sholem Asch copy. ff. (24). *A quote concerning the nature of the Jews' exilic impurity written on final page. Expert marginal repairs, few light stains. Later calf, recased, modern dust-jacket and custom slip-case. Folio.* [Vinograd, Bologna 16; Freimann, Pergamentdrucke ZfHB Vol. 15 no. 63.]

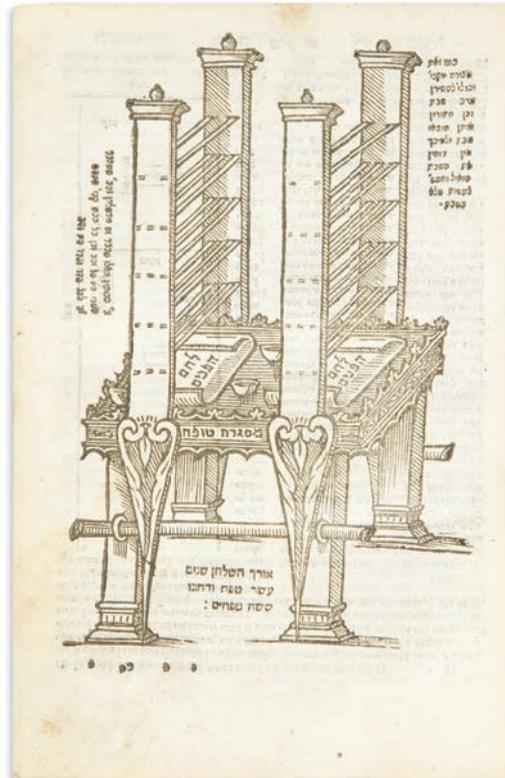
(Bologna, Menachem ben Abraham of Modena & Partners, 1540). **\$6000-9000**

• **RARE VELLUM ISSUE.** Comprises leaves 117-141 from Vol. I of the Bologna 1540 Machzor (see lot 143).

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya'akov, Vellum no. 15.



Lot 161



Lot 162

162 (MISHNAH). With commentaries by Moses Maimonides and Obadiah Bertinoro. Six parts bound in six volumes. Each part with own title-page within woodcut architectural border. Numerous woodcut text diagrams at end of Vol. II; two **MANUSCRIPT FOLDING CHARTS** in an early hand at end of Vol. III; double-page plan of the Temple, a detailed illustration of the Menorah (f.27r.) and Table and Showbread (f.38r) in Vol. V. Tipped in at end of Vol. II an extra set of **VARIANT LEAVES** displaying typographical differences in Seder Moed (ff. 73-76 and ff. 97-100). Some marginalia. * Vol. I (*Zera'im*): ff. 97. * Vol. II (*Mo'ed*): ff. 104, (4). * Vol. III (*Nashim*): ff. 82. * Vol IV (*Nezikin*): ff. 116, opening few leaves supplied from another copy. * Vol. V (*Kodshim*): ff. 122, (1). * Vol. VI (*Toharoth*): ff. 176. A mixed set. Occasional staining, previous owner's marks. Modern full calf (non-uniform), in fitted box. 4to. [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 50 and Mantua 80; Mehlman 106.]

Sabbioneta, Tobias Foa: 1559, & Mantua, Jacob Cohen of Gazolo: 1559-62. **\$6000-8000**

• The first two Orders of this edition were printed by Tobias Foa in Sabbioneta; the last four Orders by Jacob Cohen in Mantua.

The Hebrew press at Sabbioneta escaped lightly from the storm of Papal condemnation of Hebrew books which was raging at the time in Venice and Rome. Indeed, the Sabbioneta Hebrew press flourished between the years 1551 and 1559, and Hebrew books never previously published - even those treating aspects of Christianity - were issued with considerable freedom. The decree of Pope Paul III in 1553 passed over the city without apparent effect - a tribute to the liberality and culture of the ruling prince of the province.

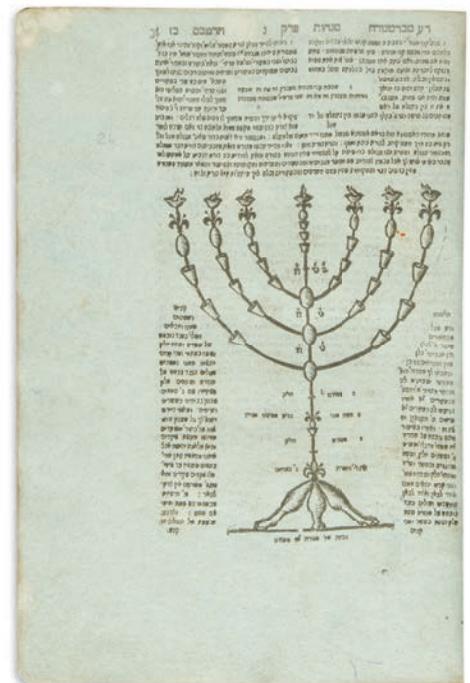
The Mantua volumes were the last books to be typeset by Jacob Cohen of Gazolo before he retired. He had served at the press of Foa in Sabbioneta and came to Mantua in 1556 where he established a reputation for splendid typographical work. See Amram, *The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy*, pp. 288-293, 325.

163 (MISHNAH). Seder Kodshim. **DELUXE WIDE-MARGINED COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Numerous woodcut diagrams, double-page plan of the Temple at end. ff. 122, (1). Stained and dampsoiled, few marginal repairs. Modern blind-tooled crushed morocco, slip-case. Lg. 4to. [Vinograd, Mantua 80; Mehlman 106.]

Mantua, Jacob Cohen of Gazolo, 1562. **\$1000-1500**

• **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 21.



Lot 163



Lot 164



Lot 165

164 (MISHNAH). Seder Zeraim. * BOUND WITH: Seder Moed. With commentaries by Moses Maimonides and Obadiah Bertinoro. DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ON BLUE PAPER. Title-pages within architectural arch, printer's device on verso. Extensive marginalia. ff. 97 and ff. 104. First title on white paper, rest on blue. Few stains, edges worn. Modern maroon calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 50.]

Sabbioneta, Tobias Foa, 1559. **\$2000-3000**

❖ RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ON BLUE PAPER.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 17.

165 (MISHNAH). Mischna sive Totius Hebraeorum Juris. With commentary by Moses Maimonides and Ovadiah Bartenura. FIRST LATIN EDITION. Hebrew text (and occasional Arabic) with full Latin translation by Willem Surenhuis. Six parts (according to the Six Orders of the Mishnah) bound in three volumes. Each of the Six Orders preceded by a finely engraved frontispiece by Richel, with vignettes illustrating the principle content of each Tractate. Additional engraved plates (some folding). Titles in red and black with printer's device. Stamp of Immanuel Loew. Lightly browned and foxed in places, ex-library. Contemporary mottled calf, rubbed, expertly rebacked. Folio. [Fuks, Amsterdam 612.]

Amsterdam, G. & J. Borstius, 1698-1703. **\$1000-1500**

❖ FIRST LATIN EDITION OF THE COMPLETE MISHNAH. A monumental achievement of Hebrew scholarship by the Dutch scholar Willem Surenhuis (1664-1729).



Lot 166



Lot 167

166 MOSES BEN MAIMON (MAIMONIDES / RaMBa”M). Moreh Nevuchim [“Guide for the Perplexed”].

* WITH: Moses Provencal. Biur Inyan Shnei Kavim [dissertation on the Theorem of Apollonius] Third edition. With commentaries by Shem Tov, Ephodi and ibn Crescas. Title within garlanded architectural columns. Few marginal notes in Hebrew and in English. ff. (14), 174, (2). Lower corner of title repaired, lightly stained in places, few neat marginal repairs, signature on title. Modern blind-tooled polished calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Sabbioneta 8.]

Sabbioneta, Cornelio Adelkind for Tobias Foa, 1553. **\$1500-2500**

✦ Exhibited by the Pierpont Morgan Library, see their catalogue: Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust (1989) no. 33.

The Guide for the Perplexed is undoubtedly the most celebrated Jewish philosophical text - and by far the most influential. The final work of Maimonides (1135-1204), it was completed c. 1185 and is the main source of the Rambam’s philosophical views. Due to its Aristotelian leanings, the Moreh Nevuchim had a turbulent history fraught with controversy, both within and beyond the Jewish community. Tragically - and obviously due to other motivations - the work was publicly burned by the Dominicans in Paris, 1232. It is said that R. Jonah Gerondi, one of those who agitated for the banning of Moreh Nevuchim, later journeyed to Maimonides’ tomb in Eretz Israel to beg forgiveness.

167 MOSES BEN MAIMON (MAIMONIDES / RaMBa”M). Masechta Avoth [commentary to Ethics of the Fathers, with text]. With commentaries by Maimonides and Rashi. Including Maimonides’ introduction, Shemoneh Perakim. Second edition of Maimonides’ commentary. Title within woodcut architectural border. ff. (24). Closely trimmed, lightly shaved. Modern morocco. Folio. [Vinograd, Mantua 65.]

Mantua, Meir b. Ephraim & Jacob Cohen of Gazollo for G. Ruffinelli, 1560. **\$1200-1500**

✦ A complete Ethics of the Fathers with title-page stating such, nonetheless the volume is foliated ff. 67-88 and with the final page, following Avoth, with Yotzroth prayers. For creative commercial purposes, the printers extracted the text from their Machzor of 1557-60, issuing Avoth here as a separate entity. For the complete Machzor, see lot 145.



168 MOSES BEN NACHMAN (NACHMANIDES / RaMBa"n). Chidushei HaTorah [commentary to the Pentateuch] Second edition. Printed in double columns. Initial word of Books of Numbers and Deuteronomy ("Sefher") within metalcut floral borders. Initial words in square type; texts in semi-cursive Sephardi "Rashi" letters. (Initial metalcut for Genesis and decorative metalcut frame on f. lv provided in facsimile). ff. 259 (of 300). Lacking ff. 1-33, 62, 71, 73, 80, 92 and 298-300, all replaced in facsimile; original f. 72 appears in duplicate, f. 153 blank, as issued. Few leaves supplied from a shorter copy and mounted, most with running tilles trimmed or shaved, occasionally with repairs affecting some text, some browning and staining, trace worned. Modern blind-tooled and paneled morocco. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Lisbon 3; Goff Heb-87; Steinschneider, col. 1960, no. 6532-49; Thes. B-18; Offenberg 97; BMC XIII, p. 94.]

Lisbon, Eliezer (Toledano), 1489. **\$15,000-20,000**

• THE FIRST BOOK PRINTED IN LISBON.

Nachmanides (the Ramban, 1194-1270) was a renowned philosopher, Kabbalist, Biblical exegete, poet and physician as well as one of the leading authors of Talmudic literature in the Middle Ages. Following his participation in the Barcelona Disputation in 1263, Nachmanides fled Spain and immigrated to the Land of Israel where he later died.

Though he began work on this commentary to the Torah while still in his native Spain, it was completed, or at least emended, during the sage's later years in the Land of Israel, as attested to by his first hand knowledge of the geography of the Holy Land. His critical analysis of the aggadic and halachic interpretations of both Talmudic and Midrashic texts is lucidly written.

The first edition, printed in Rome sometime between 1469 and 1473, is most likely the first Hebrew book ever printed, and its popularity remained undiminished in subsequent centuries. The second edition, offered here, is the first book printed in any language in Portugal's capital city of Lisbon. Published by Eliezer Toledano in 1489, it is one of only a dozen Hebrew works known to have been printed in Portugal before the expulsion of the Jews by King Manuel, a mere eight years later, in 1497.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 59.



169 MOSES BEN NACHMAN (NACHMANIDES / RaMBa"n). Peirush HaTorah [commentary to the Pentateuch] Third edition. Printed in Rabbinic type, without nikud. ff. 218 (of 244). Lacking the two blank leaves absent in nearly all copies, ff. 1-7, 131, 187, 230-44 all expertly reproduced in facsimile, ff. 8-19 mounted, some text affected on f. 8. Additional leaves remargined, strengthened, some corners filled, lightly soiled and stained, trace wormed. Modern crushed morocco. Folio. * An additional copy off. 23.4 (here f. 175) mounted with losses, provided here in separate folder. [Vinograd, Naples 10; Goff Heb-88; Steinschneider, col. 1961, no. 6532-50; Thes. A-65; Offenberg 98; BMC XIII, p. 57.]

[Naples, Joseph ben Jacob Aschkenazi Gunzenhauser], 1490. **\$12,000-18,000**

• See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 39.

The publication of three incunable editions of Nachmanides' Commentary to the Pentateuch is an eloquent attestation to the immense popularity of the work.

Only twenty-eight books were printed at the short-lived Hebrew press at Naples which operated from 1480-1500. No doubt the Naples craftsmen would have continued to produce fine books had not the Spanish Expulsion and the subsequent political changes for Jews throughout Europe silenced the activity of the Neapolitan Hebrew presses. See Amram, *The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy*, pp. 63-6.

Another (complete) copy of this Nachmanides Naples edition in the possession of the Valmadonna Trust Library was exhibited in the Pierpont Morgan Library, see their catalogue: *Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust* (1989) no. 13.



Lot 170



Lot 171

170 MOSES BEN NACHMAN (NACHMANIDES / RaMBa"n). Bi'ur al HaTorah [commentary to the Pentateuch]. **DELUXE, WIDE MARGINED COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Opening word of each of the Five Books within an elaborate woodcut vignette. ff. 158. Trace wormed, some staining, opening few leaves with repaired soiling. Modern polished calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 252.]

Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1545. **\$3000-5000**

• **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 1.

171 (MOSES BEN NACHMAN (NACHMANIDES / RaMBa"n, attributed to). Igereth HaKodesh [sexual morality]. **PRINTED ENTIRELY ON VELLUM.** Issued by Nachman Davids (based upon the Basle 1580 edition). ff. 13, with additional two opening and closing leaves on paper. Full vellum, slip-case. 8vo.

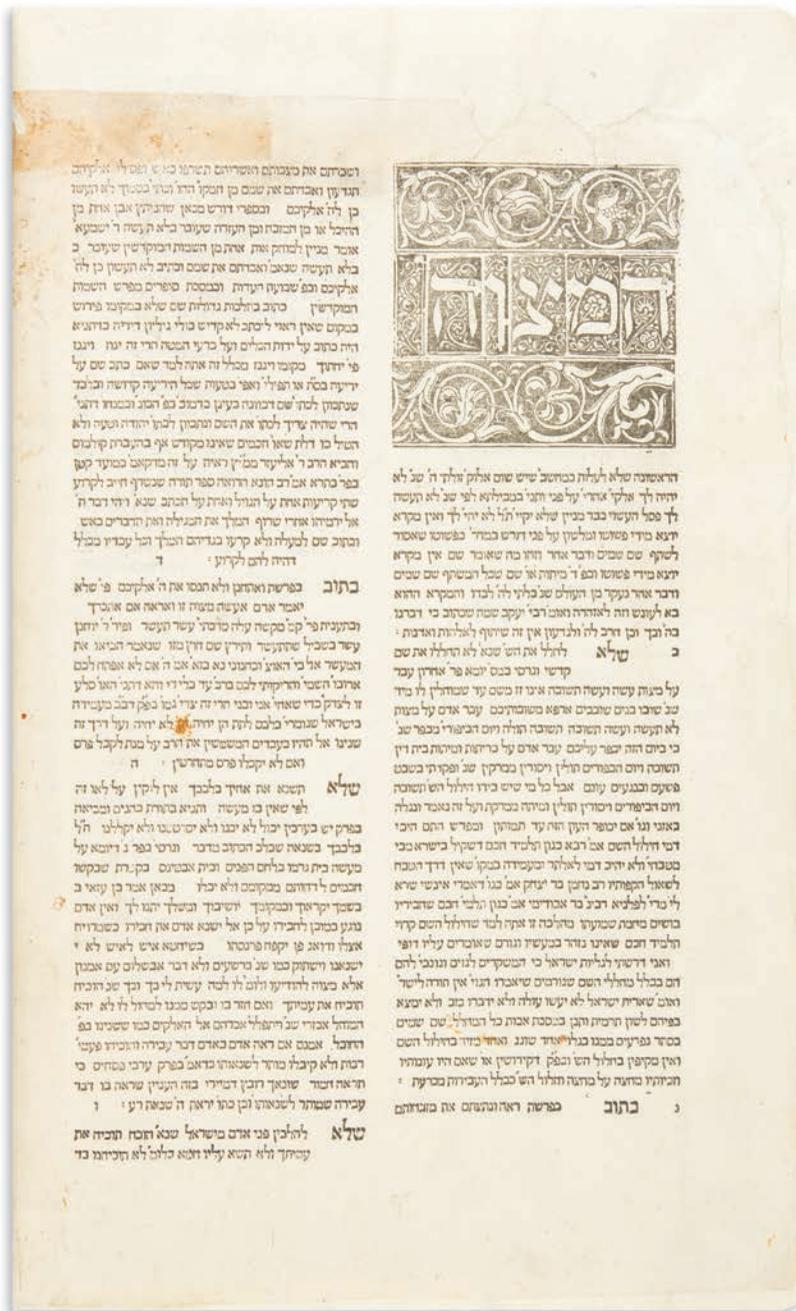
Amsterdam, Joachimsthal, 1928. **\$1000-1500**

• **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION PRINTED ON VELLUM.**

This treatise was written as a clear rejection of Maimonides' negative Aristotelian view of sexuality. The author writes that far from shameful, marital intimacy can bring one to profound mystical experiences.

While it is still uncertain who authored this text, it has been traditionally attributed to Nachmanides since R. Israel Elnekaveh attributed it to him in his mid-14th century work, Menorath HaMaor.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Vellum no. 45.



172 MOSES OF COUCY. Sopher Mitzvot Gadol (SeMa" G) ["The Great Book of Commandments": Enumeration of the 613 precepts] Second edition. Woodcut initials and incipit panels. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 278 (of 280). Opening leaf and final leaf supplied in facsimile. Several leaves expertly remargined, occasional stains. Modern blind-tooled calf, rubbed. Housed in custom slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Soncino 37; Goff Heb-85; Thes. A-48; Goldstein 58; Offenber 95; Steinschneider p. 1797 no. 6453.2.]

Soncino, Gershom ben Moses Soncino, 1488. **\$30,000-40,000**

• The first book printed by Gershom Soncino. Second incunable edition of this extensive work, the first edition of which was issued in Rome, c.1469-72.

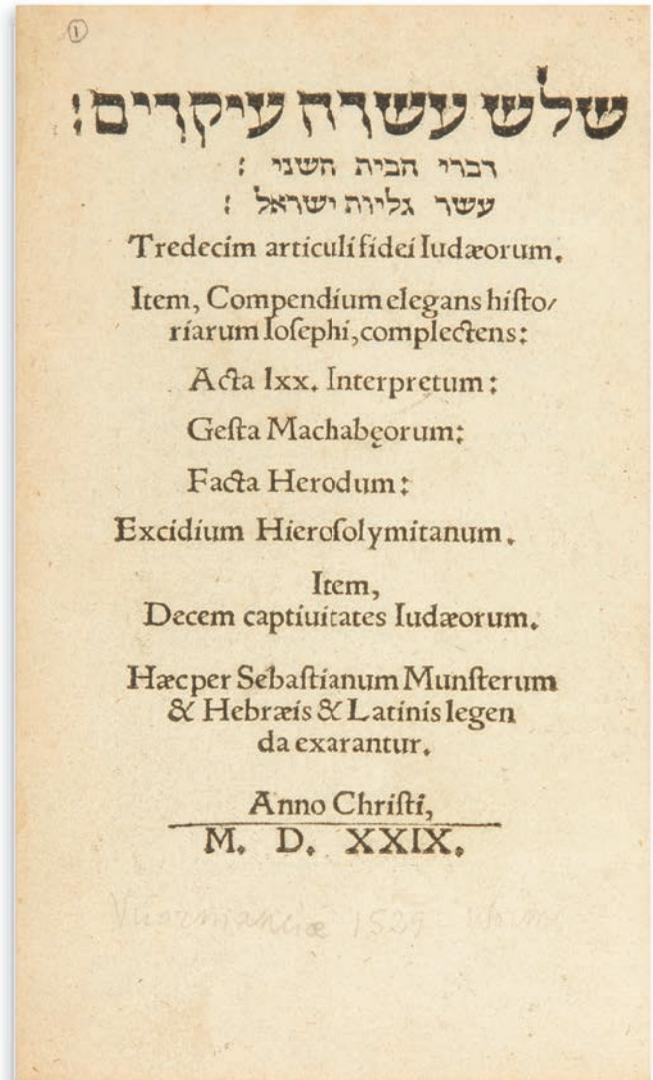
Following Maimonides' Code, the Sopher Mitzvot Gadol is the most significant work of this Halachic genre. Indeed, in R. Joshua Boaz Baruch's Ein Mishpat, passages in the Talmud are carefully cross-referenced to both Maimonides' Code and to the Sopher Mitzvot Gadol. A major stylistic difference between the two works is that rabbinic precepts are included in the Sma'g, while the Mishneh Torah only enumerates Biblical commandments.

R. Moses of Coucy was among the elite strata of French Tosafist. A student of R. Judah of Paris and brother-in-law of R. Samson of Sens, it is of little surprise that R. Moses was one of the four rabbis who argued in defense of the Talmud in the famed Disputation in Paris, 1240. See M. J. Heller, *Printing the Talmud* (1992) pp. 185-90.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Incunables no. 22.



Lot 173



Lot 174

173 MOSES OF COUCY. Sepher Mitzvoth Gadol (SeMa" G) ["The Great Book of Commandments": Enumeration of the 613 precepts] **UNIQUE, DELUXE COPY, ENTIRELY PRINTED ON BLUE PAPER.** Title within architectural arch. Additional divisional title. First word of Introduction (also of text on ff. 92r and 251r) within woodcut design. Letters of opening word (on f.7v) within white-on-black decorative vignette. At end of first part signatures including David ibn Hamu. ff. 250, (2), 251-316. Wormed, loss of text, extensively restored, opening and closing leaves with large portions provided in facsimile, f. 315 in facsimile. Modern 3/4 calf over green patterned boards, slip-case. Folio. [Vinograd, Venice 318.]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg, 1547. **\$3000-5000**

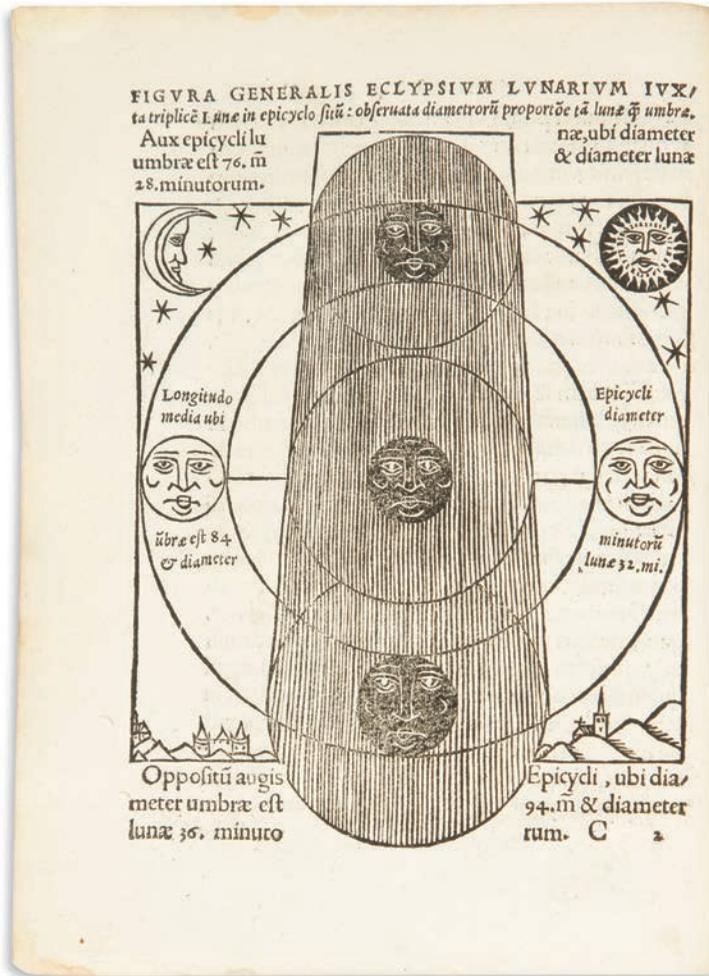
❖ **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** No other copy on blue recorded. Formerly in the Benayahu Collection (see his HaDefus Ha'ivri B'Cremona p. 26).

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 3.

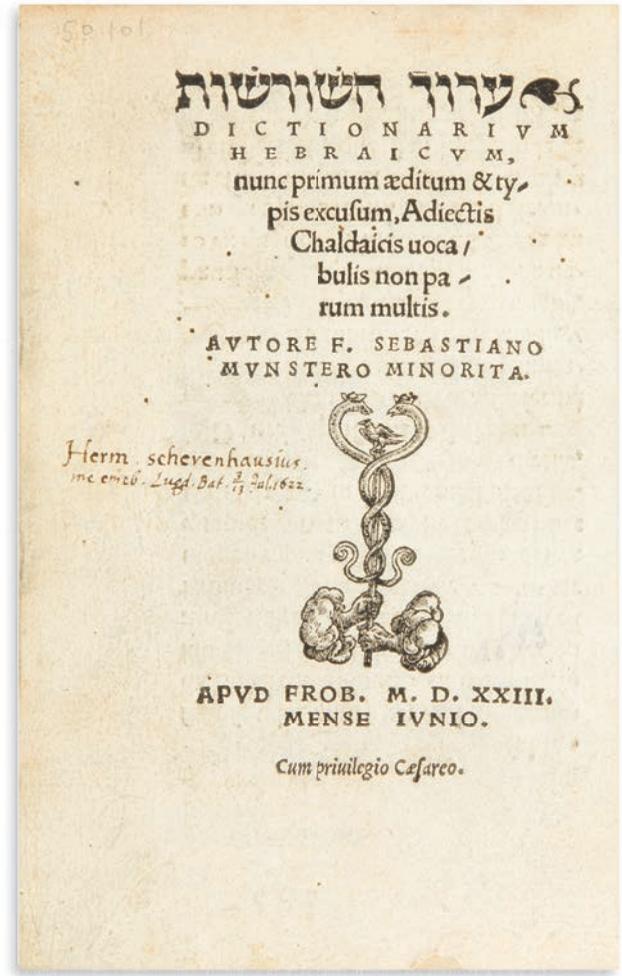
174 MÜNSTER, SEBASTIAN (Ed.) Shelosh Esrei Ikrim. Divrei HaBayith HaSheini. Eser Gilyoth Yisrael - Tredecim Articuli Fidei Iudaeorum (etc). **FIRST LATIN EDITION.** Hebrew and Latin on facing pages. Translated by Sebastian Münster. ff. (182), final leaf supplied in facsimile. Modern calf. 12mo. [Vinograd, Worms 1-2.]

Worms, Petrus Schoeffer, 1529. **\$1000-1500**

❖ **THE FIRST - AND ONLY - HEBREW BOOK PRINTED IN WORMS** (Rhineland-Palatinate), the famed home of Rashi. Includes an early edition of Maimonides' Principles of Jewish Faith, here provided with a translation into Latin by Münster one of the foremost Christian Hebraist scholars of his time.



Lot 175



Lot 176

175 MÜNSTER, SEBASTIAN (Ed.) Chochmath HaMazaloth - Kalendarium Hebraicum. **FIRST EDITION.** Text in Hebrew and Latin. Printer's device on title and repeated on verso of final leaf. Numerous woodcut astronomical illustrations. Historiated woodcut initials. Includes both foldout plates (between pp. 52-53 and pp. 116-117) found in only a few copies (cf. Prijs, Basle 24). pp. (8), 200, (16). Few light stains. Modern calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Basle 23; Mehlman 1871.]

Basle, Johann Froben, 1527. **\$3000-5000**

• Important collection of Jewish astronomical, chronological and calendrical treatises, together with philosophical poems.

176 MÜNSTER, SEBASTIAN. Aruch HaSharoshoth - Dictionarim Hebraicum. **FIRST EDITION.** Printer's device on opening and closing pages. Signature of Herman Schevenhausius (1622) on title-page. Few marginal notes. pp. (48) 525, (3). Some dampstaining. Modern calf. 8vo. [Vinograd, Basle 11; Prijs, Basle 14.]

Basle, Johann Froben, 1523. **\$1000-1500**

• First edition of Münster's celebrated Hebrew dictionary which went through five editions in the author's own lifetime (1488-1552).

177 MÜNSTER SEBASTIAN. Dikduk DeLishan Arami o HaKasda'ah- Chaldaica Grammatica. **FIRST EDITION.** Title and text in Hebrew and Latin. Initials richly historiated. On p.14, "Indian" alphabet. On p.18 wayber-taytsch and Rashi script. On final page, printer's device. pp. (8), 212, (4). Discolored. Later vellum. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Basle 22.]

Basle, J. Froben, 1527. **\$400-600**

• Includes several selected passages from Aramaic Targums with Latin translation face `a face (pp. 142-51). Also contains a glossary of Aramaic terms (pp. 161-87) and abbreviations (rashei teivoth) (pp. 188-212).



Lot 180



Lot 181

180 NATHAN BEN YECHIEL OF ROME. (Attributed to). Aruch HaKatzar [Talmudic lexicon]. Second edition. Title within wreathed architectural arch. ff. (83). *Browned, few stains, ff. 46-47 remargined. Modern calf. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Cracow 150.]

Cracow, Issac Prostitz, 1592. **\$500-700**

♣ Although entitled as only a digest of the Aruch, this work in fact contains many words and expressions not interpreted in the original, lengthier version.

181 NORZI, RAPHAEL. Se'ah Soleth. Second edition. ff. 14. ***BOUND WITH:** Marpeh LaNephesh. Second edition. ff. (1), 15-40. **AND:** Orach Chaim. **FIRST EDITION.** ff. 31. Together, three ethical works bound in one volume. The Adolph Lewisohn copy, with his morocco bookplate on front marbled paste-down *Marginal worming neatly taped, light wear, signed by censors at end. Recent polished crushed morocco with gilt dentelles, lightly rubbed, a.e.g. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Venice 634, 638 and 639.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1579. **\$500-700**

182 PERETZ BEN ISAAC HAKOHEN. (Attributed to). Ma'arecheth Ha'Elo-huth [Kabbalah]. With commentary by the Italian mystic Judah Chayat and another (see below). **FIRST EDITION.** Printer's mark on title: An astrolabe and verse from Isaiah 40:31 (Yaari, no. 22). Learned marginalia in more than one hand. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. (6), 286. *Stained in places, previous owner's inscriptions. Modern blind-tooled crushed morocco. 4to.* [Vinograd, Ferrara 49 (mispaginated).]

Ferrara, Abraham ibn Usque, 1558. **\$2000-3000**

♣ One of the most significant works on the Kabbalah due to its systematic treatment of all relevant themes found in earlier literature. Its contribution to speculative mystic theory in pre-Zoharite Kabbalistic literature is the increased symbolism of the Sephiroth. The author quotes a multitude of names by which each Sephirah is known, each signifying a differing function. He also develops the "Adam Kadmon" theory, whereby the likeness of the order of the Divine Powers of the Sephiroth to the human body is explored.

In the same year of 1558, two editions of Ma'arecheth Ha'Elo-huth appeared, one in Ferrara, the other in Mantua (see next lot). In the present Ferrara edition, the anonymous commentary is designated simply "Peirush," whereas in the Mantua edition it bears the initials Pa"Z, for "Peirush Zulath" (Another Commentary). According to Scholem, the Ferrara version of the commentary has several important passages lacking in the Mantua edition; see Scholem, *Studies in Kabbalah I* (Tel Aviv, 1998) p. 176.



Lot 183

183 PERETZ BEN ISAAC HAKOHEN. (Attributed to). Ma'arecheth Ha'Elo-huth [Kabbalah]. With two commentaries, the anonymous "Pa'Z" and Judah Chayat. Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. (4) 208. Lightly stained, opening and closing leaf with neat paper repairs. Modern gilt-titled calf. 4to. [Vinograd, Mantua 52.]

Mantua, Meir ben Ephraim of Padua & Jacob of Gozzalo, 1558. **\$1000-1500**

✎ Judah Chayat's introduction contains an autobiographical account of the expulsion of Jews from Portugal, recounting his own trials and tribulations including capture by pirates. He describes his suffering at the hands of Arabs while in the Barbary States. His wife died there of hunger, while he himself toiled for a "thin slice of bread not fit for a dog." Chayat eventually reached Italy, where he composed this commentary with the encouragement of Joseph Ya'avetz.

See G. Scholem, On the Problems of Sepher Ma'arecheth Ha'Elo-huth and its Commentaries, in: Kiryat Sefer Vol. 21 (1944) pp. 284-95.



184 PESANTE, MOSES. Ner Mitzvah [commentary to Solomon ibn Gabirol's Azkaroth for Shavu'oth, with text]. Second edition with a new introduction and many additions. ff. 68. Previous owners' marks, browned with occasional light stains, title with paper repairs, few leaves neatly remargined, ff. 10-11 with some loss. Modern calf. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Salonika 86; Mehlman 616 (lacking two leaves of the introduction).]

Salonika, Joseph Ya'avetz, 1569. **\$1000-1500**

✎ The author was an emissary from Safed who traveled through the Balkans between 1565 and 1573, publishing his works in Constantinople and Salonika. In 1573 he was killed by Turkish brigands in Makrinovo near the Greek city of Arta. See Ya'ari, Shluhei Eretz Israel (1977) pp. 236, 889; EJ, Vol. XIII, col. 328.

Lot 184



Lot 185



Lot 186



Lot 187

185 RAKKAH, MASSUD HAI BEN AARON. Ma'aseh Roke'ach [commentary to Maimonides' Mishneh Torah]. **FIRST EDITION.** Intricate historiated title, featuring woodcut images of Moses, Aaron, angels and flowers. Wide margins. ff. (8) 286, (1). *Lightly discolored, dampwrinkled. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 1818.]

Venice, Meir di Zara, 1742. **\$300-500**

♣ Born in Izmir, the author (1690-1768) studied under R. Haim Abulafia. Upon emigrating to Jerusalem, he was appointed one of the community's charitable emissaries and spent several years traveling throughout North Africa as well as Italy. He later settled in Libya, where was appointed Chief Rabbi and opened a yeshiva in Tripoli.

186 RAPA, ABRAHAM MENACHEM HAKOHEN OF PORTO. Minchah Belulah [commentary to the Pentateuch]. **FIRST EDITION.** The initial word of each of the Five Books of Moses surrounded by a richly historiated vignette. Blank leaf signed by Clarence Isaac de Sola (leading Zionist in Montreal, 1858-1920) and also by Ya'acov Reifmann. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 209. *Title-page laid down, lightly stained in places, signed by censors. Modern blind-tooled chestnut morocco. 4to.* [Vinograd, Verona 3.]

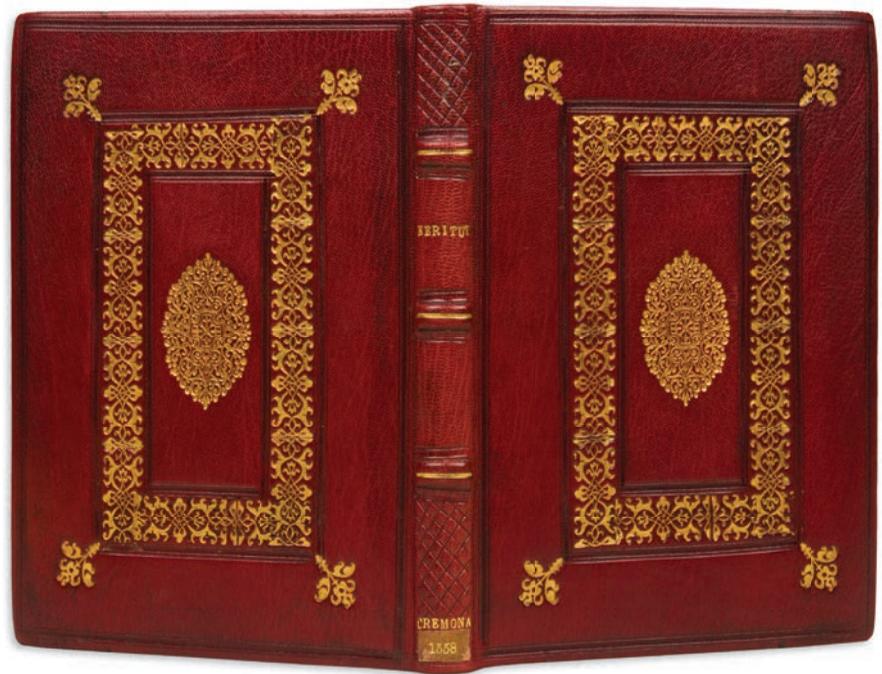
Verona, Francesco delle Donne, 1594. **\$1000-1500**

♣ Whilst a young man, the author was apprenticed as a proofreader at the House of Bragadin in Venice. There he witnessed the violent burning of the Talmud pursuant to the Papal Bull of 1553. On f. 203r of the present work, Rapaport records the tragic event and notes his decision to commemorate the anniversary of the Auto-da-Fe as a personal fast-day for the rest of his life. See A. Yaari, Sereiphath HaTalmud BeItalia in: Mechkarei Sepher (1958) pp. 198-233.

The author was the progenitor of the celebrated Rapaport dynasty of rabbinic scholars. The family coat-of-arms prominently placed on f. 207v includes a pair of Priestly hands raised in blessing and a black raven which refers to the Middle High German word "rappe" - raven, seemingly, the German family name. Indeed, the author refers to himself in his introduction as Benei Ha'Orvim - "of the children of the ravens." See Heller, The Sixteenth Century Hebrew Book, pp. 828-9.

187 ROPHÈ, JUDAH LEIB BEN JOSEPH. Kol Yehudah [sermons to the Book of Bereishith] **FIRST EDITION.** Title within architectural arch. ff. 74. *Foxed, portion removed from lower margin of title. Modern calf. Sm. folio.* [Vinograd, Prague 352.]

Prague, Sons of Abraham Hida, 1641. **\$600-900**



Lot 188

188 SAMSON BEN ISAAC OF CHINON. Sefher Kerithoth [Talmudic methodology] Second edition. Title within four-piece historiated border. ff. 73. Touch stained, previous owner's marks on title, signed by censors at end. Modern maroon crushed morocco, elaborately gilt-tooled. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Cremona 21.]

Cremona, Vincenzo Conti, 1558. **\$500-700**

• Although last of the French Tosafists, Samson of Chinon was the first Tosafist to write on Talmudic methodology. Sefher Kerithoth is an all-comprehensive work divided into five parts. The initial four parts deal with the hermeneutic rules which are the basis of Tannaitic Halachic derivation, while the fifth part is devoted to the deduction of new rules applied by the Talmudists in their interpretation of the Bible and to an extensive elucidation upon the methods and terminology of both parts of the Talmud. "This portal throws light upon many a knotty passage in the Talmud by clarifying the peculiar expressions and likewise helps to understand the complicated Talmudic discussions by supplying the key to their methods." See M. Waxman, Vol. II, pp.191-2.

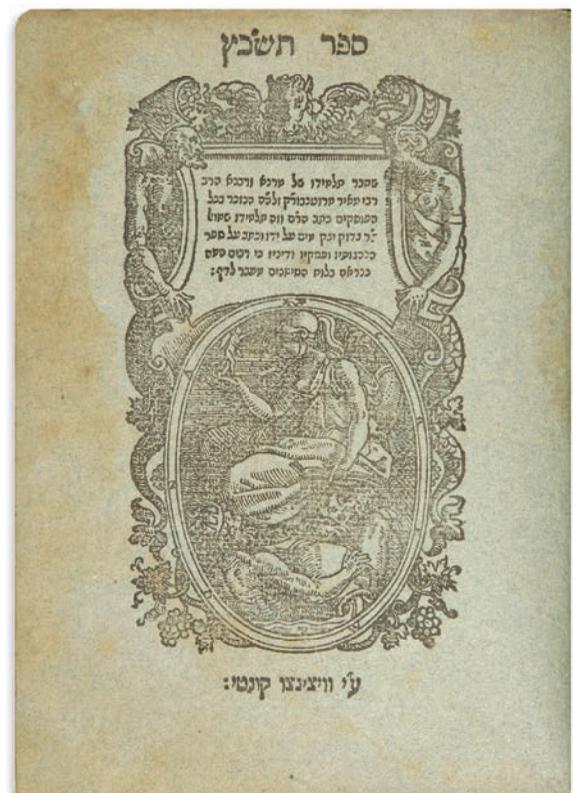
189 SAMSON BEN TZADOK. Sefher TaSHBa"TZ [Rabbinic law and responsa - following the decisions of R. Meir of Rothenburg] **DELUXE COPY, PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.** Title within grotesques and incorporating symbol of city of Cremona (see Yaari, Printers Marks, no. 25). **FIRST EDITION.** Learned marginalia, signed at end by Avraham Abeles Segal. ff. (6), 55. Closely shaved, few stains, previous owner's marks. Modern calf. Housed in custom slip-case. Lg. 8vo. [Vinograd, Cremona 6.]

(Cremona), Vincenzo Conti, (1556). **\$3000-5000**

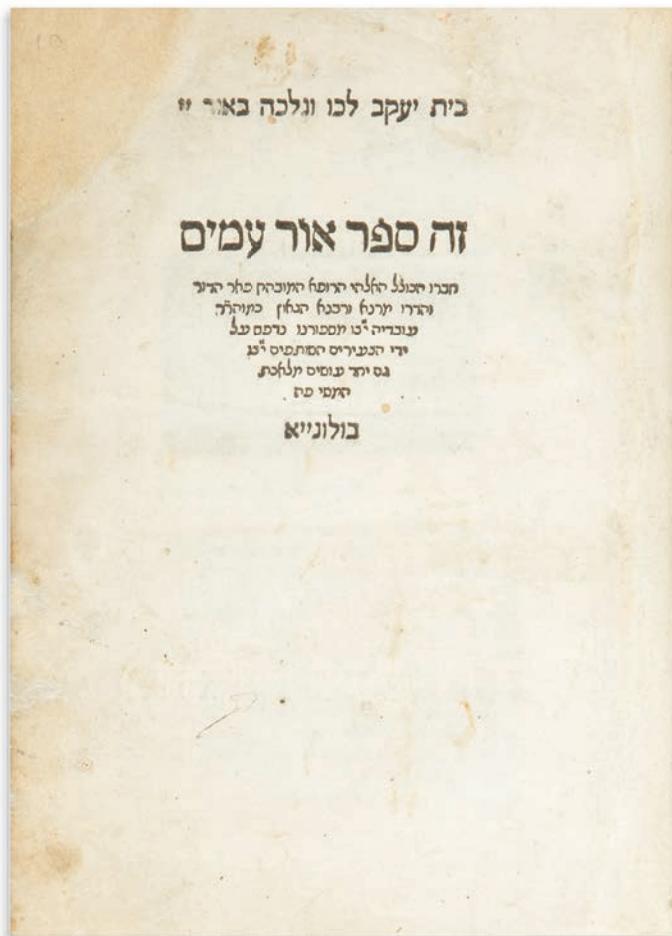
• **RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON BLUE PAPER.**

During the seven years that R. Meir of Rothenburg (Mahara'm) was confined to prison, R. Samson served as his teacher's attendant. The present work records the customs, rituals and halachic rulings of the Mahara'm during this period. Glosses added by R. Peretz of Corbeil cite the prevalent practice when contrary to the Maharam's ruling.

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Otzroth Ya'akov, Colored Paper no. 7.



Lot 189



Lot 190



Lot 191

190 SFORNO, OBADIAH. Ohr Amim. ["Light of the Nations" - philosophy] **FIRST EDITION.** Initial word within decorative frame. ff. 64. *Upper corner of title neatly repaired, previous owner's marks on f. 2 and f.5, dampwrinkled and lightly dampstained. Modern chestnut calf, elaborately blind-tooled. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Bologna 8; Mehlman 1219.]

Bologna, The Company of Silk Weavers, 1537. **\$3000-4000**

• Obadiah Sforno of Bologna (known in Latin as Salvadeus, ca. 1470-ca. 1550) was a physician by profession. Primarily known for his commentaries to the Torah and other parts of the Bible, Sforno wrote the present volume to refute the views of Aristotle which he held to be in contradiction with many of the fundamental principles of Judaism. Sforno sets out here Aristotle's own principles which he then refutes. He also quotes abundantly from the Islamic philosophers Ibn Rushd (Averroes) and al-Ghazali. A Latin translation of the work appeared under the title *Lumen Gentium* (Bologna, 1548). See R. Bonfil, Eshel, Be'er Sheva, Vol. I, pp. 208-211; EJ, Vol. XIV, cols. 1209-10.

191 SHALOM, ABRAHAM BEN ISAAC. Neveh Shalom [philosophy]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within architectural arch. Marginalia. **A WIDE-MARGINED COPY.** ff. 194. *Opening and closing leaves remargined, stained in places. Modern blind-tooled paneled calf. 4to.* [Vinograd, Const. 162.]

Constantinople, Eliezer ben Gershom Soncino, 1538. **\$3000-5000**

• The present work is a series of homilies on various Aggadic passages from the Talmud, interwoven with philosophical discussions seeking to serve as a defense of Maimonides' reconciliation of Greek and Jewish philosophy. The author (d. 1492) was one of the last representatives of the Spanish-Jewish philosophic tradition and possessed a thorough command of the fields of knowledge of his time. His work here is rich in quotations from Greek and Arabic philosophical literature. See EJ, Vol. XIV, cols. 1270-1.



Lot 192

192 SHUAIB, JOSHUA IBN. Derashoth al HaTorah [sermons to the Pentateuch]. Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. 96. Light wear, trace stained and wormed, title repaired with stamps removed, previous owner's marks. Modern blind-tooled mottled calf. Folio. [Vinograd, Cracow 37.]

Cracow, Isaac Prostitz, 1573-75. **\$500-700**

Ibn Shuaib lived in Spain in the first half of the 14th century and was a disciple of R. Solomon ibn Adret, (RaSHB" A) and later, teacher of R. Menachem ibn Zerach (author of Tzeidah LaDerech). The sermons of Ibn Shuaib are unique inasmuch as they are the only collection of sermons by a Rishon (medieval authority) that span the entire Pentateuch and cycle of the year. They were clearly written to be delivered before an audience, and only afterwards prepared for publication, as evidenced by both the homiletic style and reference to specific occasions.

193 SOLOMON BEN ISAAC (RASH'I). Pirush HaTorah VeChamesh Megiloth [commentary to the Pentateuch and Five Scrolls] Second issue (variant). Opening of each Book decorated with Zodiacal woodcuts. ff. 182 (of 191). Supplied in facsimile: ff. 1, 9, 185-191. Trimmed, browned and stained, wormed with loss of text in places. Modern crushed morocco with gilt dentelles. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Augsburg 5; M.N. Rosenfeld, Augsburg 41.]

Augsburg, Chaim Schwarz, 1533. **\$5000-7000**

COMPLETE COPIES OF THIS ESSENTIAL TEXT ARE ALMOST UNKNOWN.

The Augsburg printer, Chaim (Shachor) Schwarz was among the pioneers of Hebrew printing outside of Italy. He had previously worked in Prague and was responsible for the issue of the famed Prague Hagadah of 1526.



Lot 193



194 SOLOMON IBN ADRET. Four volumes of Chidushei HaRaShB”A [novellae to the Talmud]:

- * Chidushei Berachoth. ff. 47.
- * Chidushei Chulin. ff. 133 (i.e. 134).
- * Chidushei Gitin. ff. 133.
- * Chidushei Bava Bathra. Appended: Dina DeGarmeï by Nachmanides. ff. 116.

Four works printed on thicker paper and bound together into one volume. **ALL FIRST EDITION.** *Signature on opening title. Some occasional staining, few minor marginal repairs, final page laid down, otherwise in bright condition. Modern full vellum. Housed in custom slip-case. Thick folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 74-77.]

Venice, Daniel Bomberg, 1523. **\$15,000-20,000**

• “El Rab d’España” R. Solomon ibn Adret (c.1235-c.1310) of Barcelona, Catalonia, was a disciple of the cousins R. Jonah and R. Moses Nachmanides of Gerona. Following the departure of Nachmanides for the Land of Israel in the year 1267, Adret became the undisputed leader and spokesman of Spanish Jewry. His “chidushim” or Talmudic novellae to Tractates Berachoth, Chulin and Gitin, along with his teacher Nachmanides’ novellae to Bava Bathra, issued in the same year by Bomberg, remained the only chidushim from the school of Nachmanides to be published for roughly the next two centuries.

A FINE, WIDE-MARGINED SET, WITH ALL WORKS BOUND HERE INTO A SINGLE VOLUME.



Lot 195



Lot 196

195 SOLOMON IBN ADRET (RaSHB”A). Shailoth U’Teshuvot [responsa] ff. 192. Various stained in places. Inscriptions and signatures on title. Modern gilt-tooled morocco. Folio [Vinograd, Venice 255; Mehlman 694.]

Venice, Giustiniani-Adelkind, 1545-46. **\$600-900**

Numbering over three thousand in total, the RaSHB”A answered all of his responsa directly, and without unnecessary pontification. In addition to halachic questions, which are the majority of the work, the RaSHB”A also dealt with philosophical and theological concerns, shining a light on the spiritual status of Spanish Jewry of the time.

196 SOLOMON IBN ADRET (RaSHB”A). Torath HaBayith Ha’Aruch [Rabbinic law]. With critical commentary “BedeK HaBayith” by Aaron HaLevi of Barcelona and the author’s response “Mishmereth HaBayith.” Second edition. **PRINTED ON BLUE-GREEN PAPER.** Title within architectural arch. R. Jonathan Eybeschutz association copy (see below). ff. 31. Stamp on title of David Feldmann, rabbi of Leipzig. Modern calf-backed marbled boards. Folio. [Vinograd, Prague 847.]

Prague, Grandsons of Moshe Katz, 1735. **\$600-900**

RARE, BIBLIOPHILIC EDITION. PRINTED ENTIRELY ON COLORED PAPER.

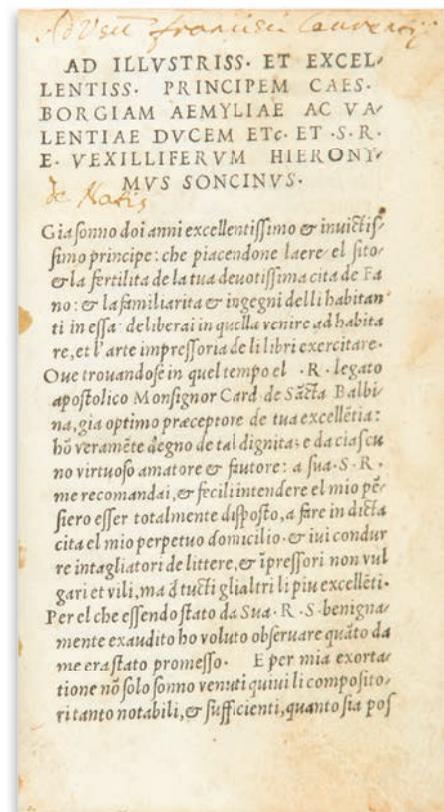
Final blank, inscribed in French: “Monsieur Jonathan EibeChitz, Grand Raby des Juifs de la ville Metz, de la ville Prague, Predecor.”

See Treasures of the Valmadonna Trust Library - Oztroth Ya’akov, Colored Paper no. 43.

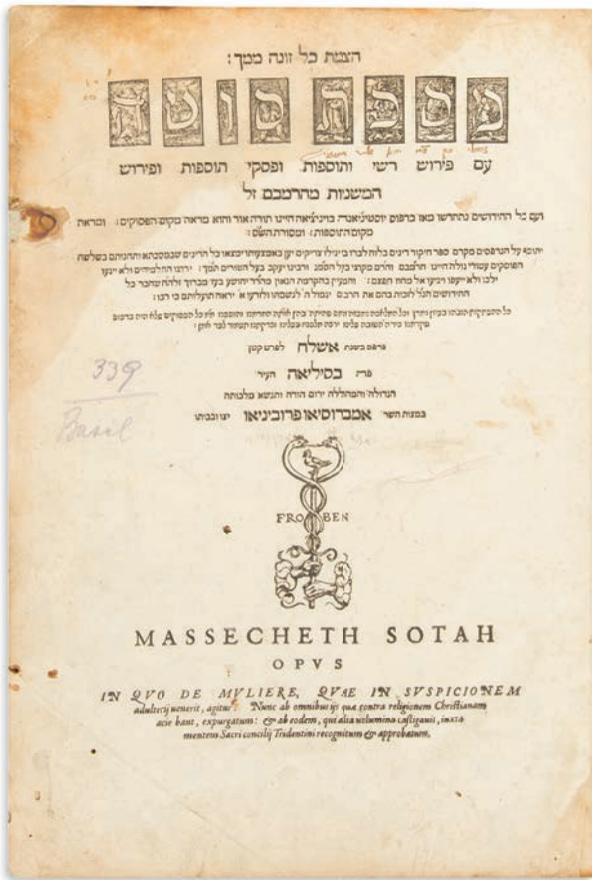
197 (SONCINO PRESS). Francesco Petrararch. Opere Volgari. ff. (200), opening leaf and final seven leaves supplied in facsimile. Lightly stained, previous owner’s marks. Modern limp vellum, slip-case. Sm. 8vo.

Fano, Hieronymus (Gershom) Soncino, 1503. **\$600-900**

Famed as a publisher of Biblical and rabbinic books in Hebrew, Soncino also issued works of Christian theology, Humanism and general Italian literature. In the present work, a new and magnificent humanist cursive typeface designed by Francesco Griffio of Bologna appears in an edition dedicated to Cesare Borgia, Machiavelli’s model of the new “prince.”



Lot 197



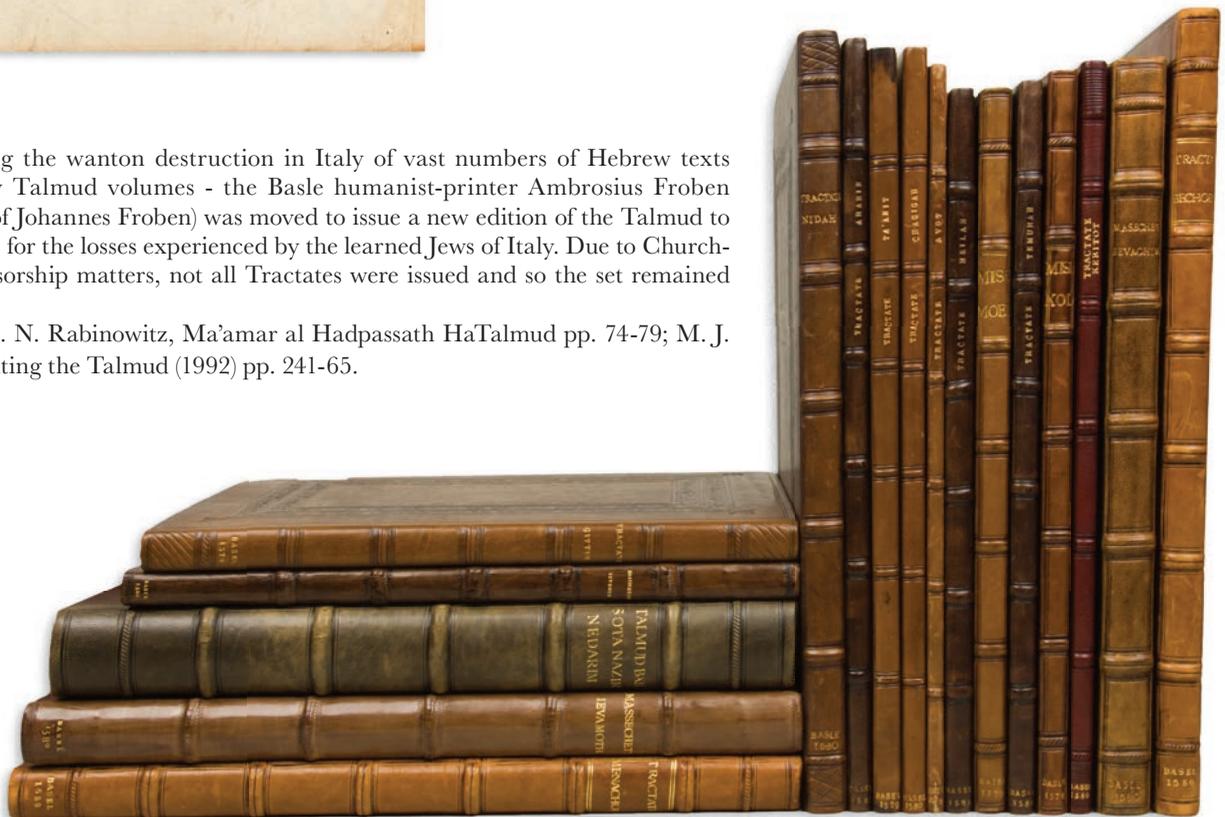
200 (TALMUD, BABYLONIAN). Twenty Basle Tractates, bound in fifteen volumes.

* Masechta Avoth. ff. 12. Vinograd, Basle 116. * Masechta Gittin. ff. 122. Vinograd, Basle 124. * Masechta Yevamoth. ff. 156. Vinograd, Basle 126. * Masechta Shevu'oth. ff. 68. Last page with signature of Shlomo Zalman ben Yehuda Leib Katz of Hanau. Vinograd, Basle 134. * Masechta Ta'anith. ff. 31, (6). Vinograd, Basle 135. * Masechta Bechoroth. ff. 70. Vinograd, Basle 144. * Masechta Zevachim. ff. 122. Vinograd, Basle 146. * Masechta Chagigah. ff. 28. Vinograd, Basle 147. * Masechta Kerithoth. ff. 28. Vinograd, Basle 149. * Masechta Menachoth. ff. 112. Vinograd, Basle 150. * Masechtoth Me'ilah, Kinim, Midoth, Tamid. ff. 38. Vinograd, Basle 151. * Masechta Nidah. ff. 90. Vinograd, Basle 154. * Masechta Erechin. ff. 36. Vinograd, Basle 157. * Masechta Temurah. ff. 12. Vinograd, Basle 159. * Masechta Sotah. ff. 56. Vinograd, Basle 130. **BOUND WITH:** Masechta Nazir. ff. 77. Vinograd, Basle 153. **AND:** Masechta Nedarim. ff. 120. Vinograd, Basle 152. **ACCOMPANIED BY:** Mishnah. Seder Kodshim. ff. 47. Vinograd, Basle 120. **AND:** Mishnah. Seder Moed. ff. 53. With stamp of Moses Gaster. Vinograd, Basle 137. With commentaries: Rashi, Tosafoth, Piskei Tosafoth, R. Asher, & Maimonides on Mishnah. *A mixed (incomplete) set. Three volumes with marginalia. Volumes occasionally stained, browned, few marginal repairs. Each volume finely (differently) bound in full calf (two vols. calf-backed marbled boards).* Folio. Sold not subject to return (17).

Basle, Ambrosius Froben, 1578-80. **\$800-10,000**

Following the wanton destruction in Italy of vast numbers of Hebrew texts - especially Talmud volumes - the Basle humanist-printer Ambrosius Froben (grandson of Johannes Froben) was moved to issue a new edition of the Talmud to compensate for the losses experienced by the learned Jews of Italy. Due to Church-related censorship matters, not all Tractates were issued and so the set remained incomplete.

See R. N. N. Rabinowitz, *Ma'amar al Hadpassath HaTalmud* pp. 74-79; M. J. Heller, *Printing the Talmud* (1992) pp. 241-65.





201 (TALMUD, BABYLONIAN). Talmud Bavli. With commentary of Rashi, Tosaphoth, Piskei Tosaphoth, compendium by Asher b. Jehiel, commentary on the Mishnah by Moses Maimonides, plus index of decisions “Ein Mishpat.” Twelve volumes, **ENTIRELY COMPLETE**. Title letters within decorative woodcut vignettes. Printers device on title (Yaari no. 60). *Variouly browned and stained. Uniform contemporary blind-tooled calf over thick wooden boards, expertly rebacked. Sm. folio.* [Vinograd, Amsterdam 87-101, 103-5, 108, 113, 117-135 and 137; M.J. Heller, *The Seventeenth Century Hebrew Book* (2011) pp. 592-3.]

Amsterdam, Immanuel Benveniste, 1644-47. **\$20,000-25,000**

☛ **THE FIRST PRINTING OF THE TALMUD IN AMSTERDAM. IMMANUEL BENVENISTE'S ESTEEMED, UNCENSORED EDITION, HERE IN A MAJESTIC UNIFORM CONTEMPORARY BINDING.**

Benveniste's Talmud follows the Basle edition in layout and text, and likewise has no general title-page for the entire work. Benveniste did not print his Talmud in chronological order, but produced most tractates as individual books with separate title page and foliation so that they could be sold individually - hence a uniform and complete set is uncommon.

Due to progressive notions of freedom of speech, there was little censorship of books in the Dutch Republic, thus Benveniste's Talmud contains Tractate Avodah Zara in its entirety with all references to Christianity about which censors in other European centers of Hebrew printing strongly objected.



עירוש רשי ותוספות ופסקי תוספות ורבינו אשר ופירוש המשניות מהרמבם זל

כפי אשר נדפס בוויניציאה הבירה ברפוס יוסטיניאנה עם יופי אותיות והדיו והנייד לא נפל דבר מכל טוב תיקונן בצורתן ובשיעור דף על דף ממש ועם כמה מעלות טיבות :

המעלה

האחת הוא שהונה מספרי התלמוד שהונה מכתובת ידי גדולי הדור אשר בדרו וליבנו וצירפו וסקלו המסלה מכל מעיות שנמצאו ברפוסים הראשונים בשיתא סדרי המשנה בגמרא פירוש ותוספות :

ואת

ועוד אחרת הוספנו נופך ולקחנו אנשים חשובים בהורדה ובמלאכת שמים להגות וללמוד עם הספר הנעלה והקרא חכמיה שלכה ללקט מתוכו שושנים נותנים ריה מה שצריך לתקן מהטעיות המפורסמות כל דף דבר יום ביומו קורבם שיבא ליד בעלי אומני הרפוס כדי לסלק ולסקל מכל סוג ופסולת ויהיה פנוקה ומנופה כסלה נקיה בשלש עשרה נפה ועוד הוספנו על הראשונים שהרפסנו בסוף כל מסכתא ומסכתא העתק כחכמת שלכה שעליה אות באות

המעלה

השנית הוא שתוסף עוד מראה מקום של מסורת התלמוד ומראה מקום מהתוספות ומראה מקום מהפסוקים : ומראה מקום מדיני התלמוד בפוסקים : והם ראשי האופים בהוראה מיימני : וסמך וארבע טורים : כל אחד ואחד לדגלו באותיות : נקרא עין משפט והתועלת הגדול מחדד להמעיין שיוכל לבא נמעט וזמן בנקל לעומק הדין מה שהעמיקו בו גאוני עלמא כמה עדנין וזמנין ובפרט אחרי שגנה עלינו אור האלה וזכנו שנתפסנו בעולם חידושי בית יוסף הוא הגאון אשר קרא ושנה אסף וליקט וויקק מהתלמוד ומכל הפוסקים ותיקן שלימות הדעה באמרי עו אשרי שכחה לו בעולמו אשר בו לבדו יוכל המעיין למצוא חידושי כל הדעות ומכל הלכה והלכה מה שהדשו קדמאין ובתראין זכר לכרכה :

ובנו ענין חידושי א"י כי הוא יוניא לאור משפט התלכה העשורה הזאת אשלה ממנו יעשה שלום לי להשלים אותה עד שמה ולהתחיל ולשלים בערים הרבה לתורה ולתעודה להכין אותה ולשמה עשה ועד שולם טורת ה' נבאית משה זאת :

בבית



בנבנשרי

עמנו אל

חרחם ציון לפ"ק

שנת ארתה תקס

באמשטרדם



Lot 202



Lot 203



Lot 204

202 VALERIO, SAMUEL. *Yad HaMelech* [commentary to the Book of Esther, with text] **FIRST EDITION.** Title within architectural arch. ff. 104. Lightly discolored, trace wormed. Modern blind- and gilt-tooled morocco. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Venice 690.]

Venice, Giovanni di Gara, 1586. **\$500-700**

♣ Valerio was a physician who lived in the Grecian Archipelago in the second half of the 16th century. The present commentary was completed in Corfu in 1579.

203 VITAL, DAVID BEN SOLOMON (The Physician). *Kether Torah* [on the precepts] **FIRST EDITION.** Title within historiated woodcut border surmounted by coronet. Illustration of hand (relating to calendar) on f. 14v, illustration of cow's lung (relating to dietary laws) on f. 92v. **AN UNCUT COPY.** Signature of Samson Cohen Modon of Mantua on title. ff. (128). Opening three leaves trace wormed and stained, upper portion of title-page remargined. Modern blind-tooled maroon morocco; slip-case. 4to. [Vinograd, Const. 154; Mehlman 705.]

Constantinople, Eliezer ben Gershom Soncino, 1536. **\$3000-5000**

♣ A Spanish exile, David Vital settled in Greece, first in Patras and following the Turko-Venetian war of 1532, in Arta, where he was welcomed as a pre-eminent halachic authority. *Kether Torah* is a rhymed summary of the 613 Commandments in accordance with Maimonides's enumeration, together with the seven rabbinical commandments. Hence, the numerical value of the title, "Kether" (620). As a commentary to Maimonides' *Sefer HaMitzvoth*, the author writes that he has "not strayed from the great Eshel (tamarisk tree), neither left nor right." Despite its unusual poetic form, the *Kether Torah* remains an important halachic source frequently quoted in rabbinic literature.

204 (WOMEN). Benjamin Slonik of Grodno. *Mitzvath Nashim Melamdah - Precetti da Esser Imparati dalle Donne Hebre.* **FIRST ITALIAN EDITION.** Translated by Jacob Halpron. Italian text interspersed with Hebrew. Printer's device on title. ff. (3), pp. 101, pp. (11) all complete, two leaves duplicated in a fine neat hand. Modern crushed morocco with central gilt design on covers. 8vo. [Vinograd, Venice 1093.]

Venice, Giacomo Sarzina, 1616. **\$600-900**

♣ First Italian edition of this oft-republished work, focusing upon the three principle religious duties of a married woman. The noted Polish author, Benjamin Slonik of Grodno (c. 1550-c.1619) left a body of Halachic opinion that remained authoritative long after his death.

205 YA'AVETZ, JOSEPH. ("HeChasid Ya'avetz.") *Yesod Ha'Emunah* ["The Foundation of Faith"]. Second edition. Title within architectural arch. ff. 15. Trimmed and light browned otherwise, a fine copy. Modern blind-tooled calf, rubbed. Housed in slip-case. Sm. 4to. [Vinograd, Lublin 62.]

Lublin, Kalonymus ben Mordechai Jaffe, 1597. **\$1000-1500**

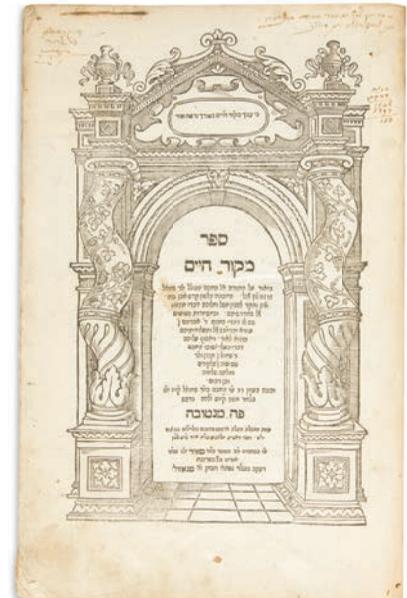
♣ In *Yesod Ha'Emunah* the author condenses Maimonides' Thirteen Articles of Faith into three: 1) Creation of the world; 2) Divine Providence; and 3) The Oneness of God (f.2r). Ya'avetz writes (f.8) that these three articles of faith are the subject of the three Sabbath prayers, as well as relate to the three Sabbath meals. The evening prayer speaks of the Creation; the morning prayer touches upon the Giving of the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai - a prime example of Divine providence; while the afternoon prayer declares *Atah Echad* ("You are One.")



Lot 205



Lot 206



Lot 208

206 YEKUTHIEL ZALMAN BAR MOSES. *Kitzur Amudei Golah* [abridgment of the shortened version of Moses of Coucy's *Sepher Mitzvoth Gadol*]. **FIRST EDITION.** Title within architectural arch. Verse cited above the title evidently a fusion of Isaiah 50:2 and Isaiah 59:1. ff. 32. *Dampstained. Modern calf. Sm. 4to.* [Vinograd, Cracow 58.]

Cracow, Isaac Prostitz, 1579. **\$600-900**

207 YERUCHAM BEN MESHULAM OF PROVENCE. *Toldoth Adam VeChava. Sepher Meisharim* [Rabbinic code]. Parts I and II bound in one volume. Second edition. Printer's mark of three crowns on title. Divisional title. ff. 16, 13-238, 104. *Some worming, stained in places, opening title taped on verso, previous owner's inscriptions, censored. Later calf, upper cover gilt-tooled with Hebrew name "Yitzhak Frani," expertly recased. Folio.* [Vinograd, Venice 461; Mehlman 742-3 (incomplete).]

Venice, Bragadini, 1553. **\$1000-1500**

♣ A native of Provence, the author was exiled from France in the expulsion of 1306 and eventually settled in Toledo, where he studied under the guidance of R. Asher ben Yechiel (Ro'sh). In his Code, *Rabbeinu Yerucham* quotes the opinions of French, Provençal and Spanish authorities, recording for posterity the customs of those communities. Divided into two: "*Adam VeChavah*" focuses on life-cycles and ritual law, "*Meisharim*" deals with civil law. An important early Halachic codex, it was greatly relied upon by the *Beth Yoseph*.

208 ZARZA, SAMUEL. *Mekor Chaim* [super-commentary to Abraham ibn Ezra on the Pentateuch]. **FIRST EDITION. TWO COPIES:** First edition first issue; and first edition second issue (see below). ff. 130. *Stained, trace wormed, previous owner's marks. Uniform modern calf. Folio.* [Vinograd, Mantua 63.]

Mantua, Jacob Cohen of Gozallo, 1559. **\$1200-1800**

♣ The author, a 14th-century Spanish philosopher resident in Valencia, recounts in the introduction of the present work the suffering of the Jews of Castille as a result of the civil-war between Dom Pedro, Duke of Coimbra and his brother Henry the Navigator. In Toledo alone 10,000 Jews are said to have lost their lives.

There are extant two issues of this first edition, with variants to the introduction. The present lot contains both issues.

A blue-paper copy of *Mekor Chaim* in the possession of the Valmadonna Trust Library was exhibited in the Pierpont Morgan Library, see their catalogue: *Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust* (1989) no. 37.



Lot 207

209 THE COMPLETE REFERENCE LIBRARY OF THE VALMADONNA TRUST Containing some 2,000 titles.

The extraordinary reference and bibliographic library of the Valmadonna Trust was built up over many decades of careful, intelligent and assiduous pursuit. It comprises a wealth of books and offprints dealing with Hebrew incunables, printing, typography, codicology, manuscript illumination, Jewish art and the art of the book, library history, archives, private collections, and every other area of Judaic bibliography. Many volumes in Valmadonna custom luxurious bindings. Many with author's inscribed dedications. **THE COLLECTION CONTAINS THE MOST IMPORTANT LITERATURE IN THIS FIELD FROM THE 18TH CENTURY TO THE EARLY 21ST CENTURY.**

PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS, PLEASE NOTE: *The library that comprises this lot will not be on exhibition or otherwise accessible for direct viewing. It can be resourced via a comprehensive electronic short-title listing that is available upon request. Upon successful purchase, shipment from London can be arranged. Please inquire for further information. Sold not subject to return.*

\$50,000-70,000

• Descriptive Summary of the Valmadonna Trust Reference Library. Prepared by Brad Sabin Hill.

The Valmadonna Collection of Bibliographic and Reference Literature for Hebraica and Judaica is an incomparable concentrated assemblage of tools supporting research on Hebrew books, manuscripts and Jewish literature in many languages. Among the older works in this vast collection are the bibliographies and printing-historical studies in Latin by the Christian Hebraists J. C. Wolf and G. B. De Rossi, and the catalogues and literary-historical surveys by the 19th-century founder of modern Hebrew bibliography, Moritz Steinschneider. The Valmadonna library's set of original editions of De Rossi's works is one of the most complete in the world, and the holdings of Steinschneider's many book-length works is similarly comprehensive. There are also many editions of the bibliographic works by the wandering scholar H. J. D. Azulai.

The collection encompasses the broad spectrum of Hebrew and Judaic bibliographic scholarship of the 19th and 20th centuries, works principally in German, Hebrew, English, Italian and French, the whole in uncommonly clean copies and often nicely bound or rebound. Among them are specialized studies of incunables, regional printing history, Bible and Talmud editions, manuscripts and manuscript illumination, Passover Hagadoth, scrolls, Ketuboth and many other related subjects. The catalogues and bibliographies deal not only with books and manuscripts in Hebrew but also the whole Hebrew-character literature, including Aramaic, Judeo-Arabic, Judeo-Persian, Yiddish and Judeo-Spanish, as well as Samaritan.

Studies on manuscripts include works by Beit-Arié, Bernheimer, Biscioni, Cassuto, Goldenthal, Harkavy, E. Hurwitz, A. Marx, Neubauer, Poznanski, Richler, C. Roth, S. Sachs, M. Schwab, Sed-Rajna, C. Sirat and many other authorities. The bibliographies, catalogues of book collections, and printing-historical studies include works by such figures as Amzalak, Benayahu, Benjacob, Ben-Menahem, Ch. Berlin, A. Berliner, Busi, Chajes, Friedberg, L. Fuks, Gaster, Goldschmidt, Habermann, S. Halevy, Heller, Kayserling, H. Loewe, Luzzatto, Manzoni, M. Marx, Mayer, Liberman Mintz, Muneles, Offenber, Schaeper, Schmelzer, Schrijver, Shmeruk, Tamani, Vinograd, Wachstein, Yaari and Zunz.

The collection includes the most significant literature recorded by Shunami in his *Bibliography of Jewish Bibliographies*, and book-historical items recorded by Mayer in his *Bibliography of Jewish Art*. The carefully bound set of Moses Marx's typescript *History and Annals of Hebrew Printing in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries* is one of three such complete print copies in the world. There are many exceptionally rare or altogether unrecorded works. Examples of fugitive items include the historic sale catalogue *Antikvare hebreishe bikher* published by the Soviet government (Moscow, 1930) and the little-known *Heftn far yidisher kunst* published by YIVO (Vilna, 1936).

Numerous books, booklets and exhibition catalogues relate to state, institutional or communal libraries and private collections of Hebraica and Judaica. Among these are works by or about the collections of E. N. Adler, Almanzi, J. D. Eisenstein, N. D. Friedmann, Gaster, Ghironi, Halberstam, F. Hirsch, Kaufmann, Kirschstein, R. N. Rabinowitz and Saraval. The bibliographic collection also holds many facsimile editions of rare books and fragments from the early centuries of printing in Italy, Spain, Portugal, Central Europe, Ottoman Greece and Turkey. The complete set of limited edition facsimiles and finely printed brochures issued by the bibliophile Soncino-Gesellschaft in Berlin during the interwar years is hardly recorded in any research library.

Attention must be drawn in particular to the great many offprints of bibliographic and related studies of the last 150 years, many of them illustrated. Such offprints are rarely found in libraries but are preserved here in abundance. There are also many personal bibliographies of diverse Hebrew literary scholars, bibliographers, linguists and historians, usually produced in limited runs and privately distributed.

There are a large number of booksellers' and printers' catalogues, some in lengthy runs and bound up together (e.g. of Kaufmann in Frankfurt and of Romm in Vilna), some lithographed, many unique or nearly unique, and most unrecorded in libraries. Antiquarian catalogues from the early 20th century include such firms as Lamm in Berlin, Schwager & Fränkel in Husiatyn, Amkraut & Freund in Przemyśl and Maggs in London. The sets of Hebraica and Judaica sale catalogues from the major auction houses, e.g. Sotheby's, Christie's, Kestenbaum, Judaica-Jerusalem, Kedem and Asufa, all lavishly illustrated and with detailed notes, comprise a rich resource for the descriptive bibliography of rare books, manuscripts and Jewish art, especially of Europe and the Orient.

AN ALTOGETHER INDISPENSABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR A RESEARCH INSTITUTION WISHING TO OBTAIN, IN ONE SWOOP, A UNIQUE AND COMPREHENSIVE LIBRARY FOCUSED UPON THE HISTORY OF THE HEBREW BOOK.

— END OF SALE —

רשימה מקוצרת של הספרים העבריים על פי א"ב עם המספרים שבקטלוג

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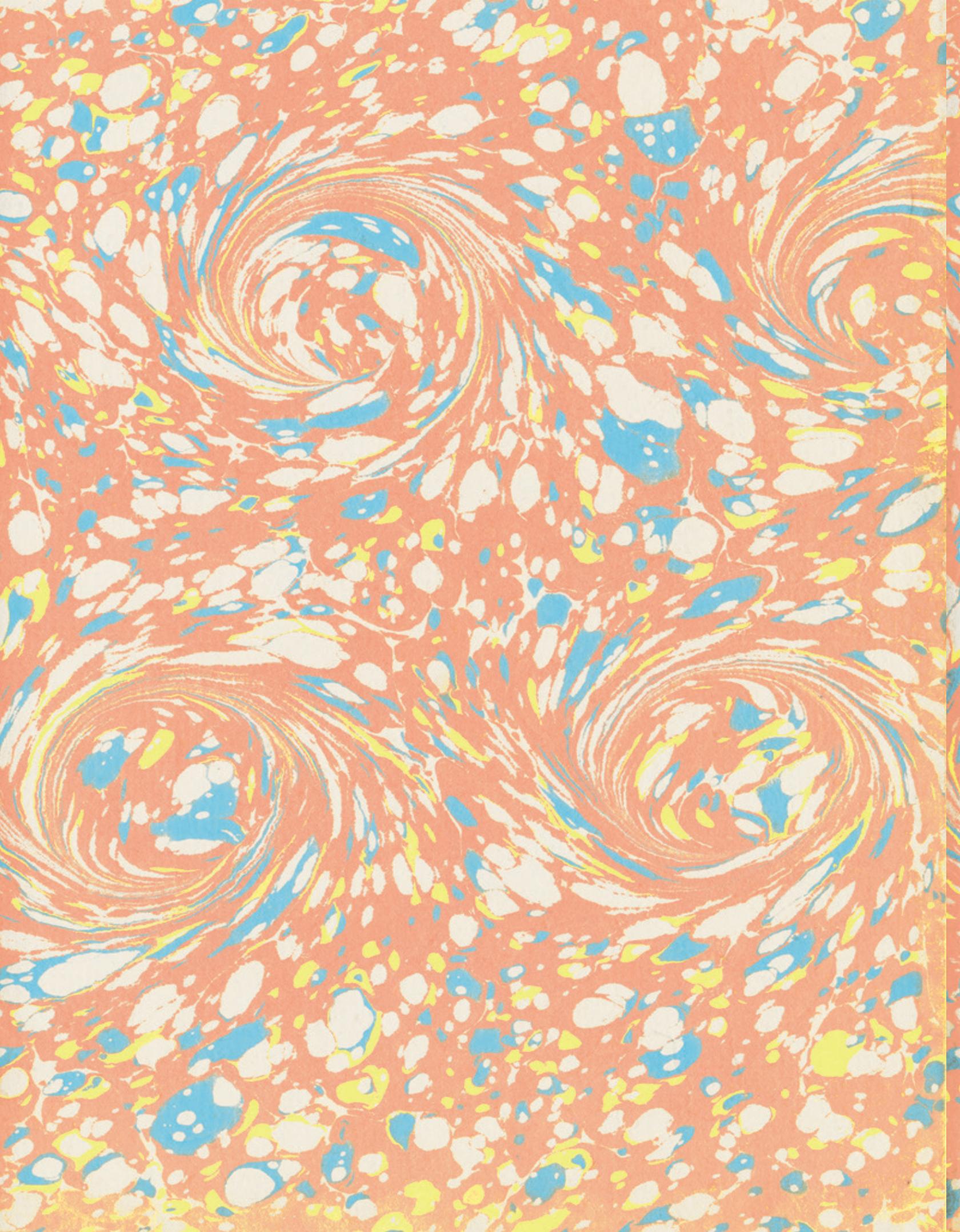
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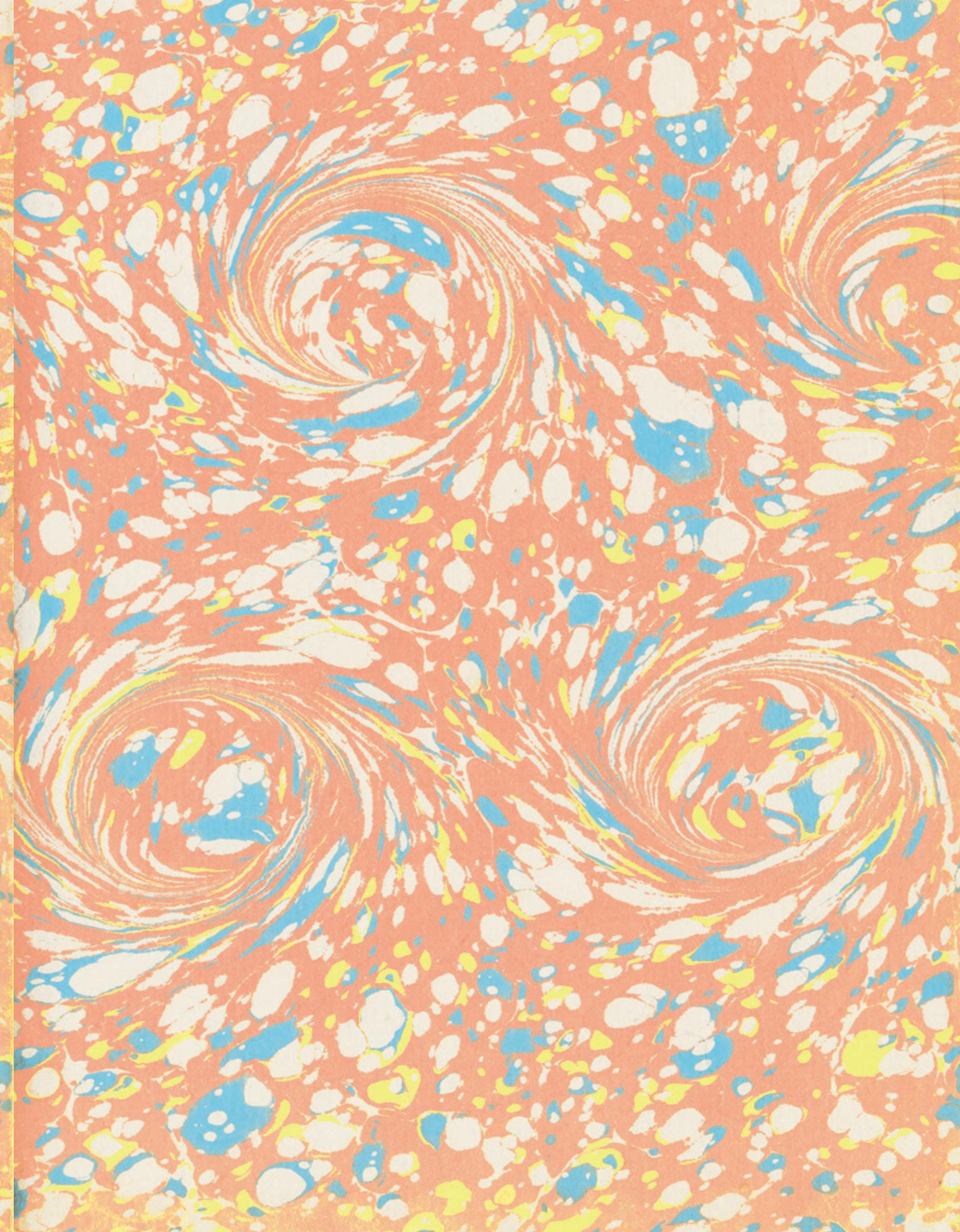
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