

# Charles Dickens

A Selection of First Editions

MASTER  
HUMPHREY'S  
CLOCK

MASTER  
HUMPHREY'S  
CLOCK

MASTER  
HUMPHREY'S  
CLOCK

SKETCHES  
BY  
"BOZ"  
II.

DICKENS

SKETCHES  
BY  
"BOZ"  
I.

DICKENS

SKETCHES  
BY  
"BOZ"  
SECOND SERIES

DICKENS

## BUDDENBROOKS

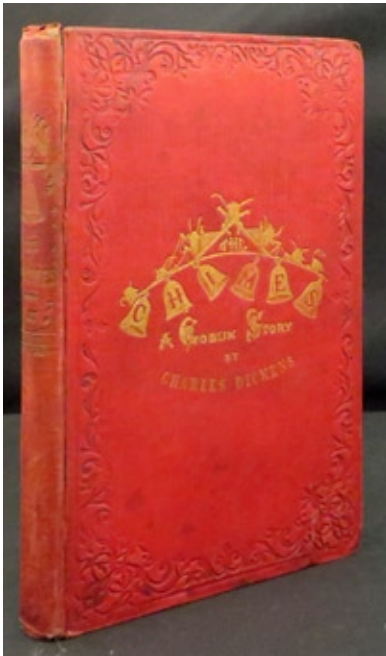
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***The Chimes - First Edition***  
**A Beloved Dickens Holiday Classic**

1 Dickens, Charles. THE CHIMES. (London: Chapman and Hall, 1845.) First Edition, with the second state of the vignette titlepage as usual. Engraved frontispiece and title page, 11 other illustrations by John Leech, Richard Doyle, and others. 12mo., original red cloth, enclosed in a cloth slipcase with paper label. 175 pp. A solid very good copy, the corners rubbed, and light soiling, the cloth a bit worn along the joints.

*This was Dickens' second installment in the "Christmas Books" series and his labors in creating THE CHIMES were "very arduous" in order to make it a worthy successor to A CHRISTMAS CAROL. He wrote to one of his friends that he believed he had "written a tremendous book and knocked the 'Carol' out of the field. It will make a great uproar I have no doubt." Of course, it did not exceed the CAROL in any way except in initial sales, but it is a charming tale nonetheless.*  
 \$795.

**And The First Edition of Dickens' Holiday Classic**  
***The Cricket on the Hearth - 1846***

2 Dickens, Charles. THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH. (London: Bradbury and Evans, 1846) First Edition, with the second state of the advertisement leaf as is normally found. Complete with 14 engraved illustrations including a fine frontispiece and title-page, by John Leech, R. Doyle and others. 12mo., rebound in red morocco, preserving most of the original cloth to the boards including the gilt vignette on the upper cover, the spine with tall gilt stippled raised bands and gilt ruled and decorated compartments, lettered in gilt in two compartments. A fine clean copy.

*THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH was third in Dickens' Christmas Book Series. The title grew out of Dickens' idea to begin a weekly periodical named "The Cricket" with an added motto, "A cheerful creature that chirrups on the hearth." Dickens relinquished that idea to instead concentrate on the venture that resulted in the founding of the "The Daily News." The original periodical idea manifested itself in his "Household Words."*

*'THE CRICKET' was extremely popular when issued. Within one year there had been twenty two editions printed.*  
 \$950.



**The First Edition of Dickens' *Dombey and Son* - 1848**  
**A Well-Loved Classic in Handsome Period State**

3 Dickens, Charles. DEALINGS WITH THE FIRM OF DOMBEY AND SON, Wholesale, Retail and for Exploration. (London: Bradbury and Evans, 1848) First edition, with the earliest state of the hook on the left hand on the vignette title-page. With engraved Illustrations by H.K. Browne throughout. 8vo, in a handsome contemporary binding of three quarter tan calf over marbled boards, the spine with gilt bands, one compartment with brown morocco label lettered in gilt. xiv, 624 pp. A very handsome copy in a proper period binding, sturdy and attrac



tive and unusually clean and bright throughout.

*FIRST EDITION.* This is quite a desirable copy of the Dickens novel that introduced the world to the memorable Mr. Dombey and his transactions, business and personal, and that creates a "clear picture of society in [Dickens'] time." Dickens wrote it while in residence in a number of different areas, beginning the work in Lausanne, Switzerland, continuing in Paris, and finishing in Brighton, Broadstairs, and London, making the text "a true cosmopolite in the manner of its writing." The publication of this book marked a turning point for Dickens; his proceeds were a fine increase over *MARTIN CHUZZLEWIT*, and with these earnings "his financial worriment ceased, prosperity began, and a period of money-saving was at hand."

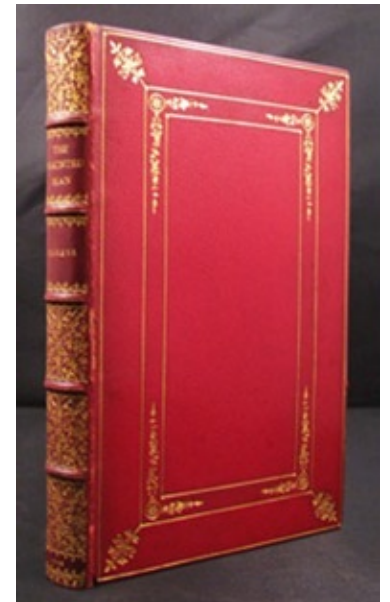
This is the first publication of the text in its entirety after its serialization from October 1846 to April 1848. Copies this early are becoming scarce. An excellent piece of classic Dickensiana. Eckel, 74. \$1050.

**Charles Dickens - *The Haunted Man* - 1848**  
**First Edition in a Beautiful Binding by Riviere**

4 Dickens, Charles. *THE HAUNTED MAN AND THE GHOST'S BARGAIN. A FANCY FOR CHRISTMAS-TIME.* (London: Bradbury and Evans, 1848 ) First edition. With 16 engraved illustrations including a fine title-page and frontispiece. Small 8vo, in a fine full red morocco binding by Riviere with gilt fillet border at the cover edges surrounding a double fillet frame in gilt, corner pieces tooled in gilt, border tooling in gilt within the framework, the spines with elaborate gilt decorated panels within compartments separated by raised bands gilt stopped, gilt ruled and gilt lettered, gilt turn-ins, marbled endpapers, all edges gilt. (10),188, (2) advertisements. A fine, well preserved copy only lightly aged.

*FINE FIRST EDITION IN A VERY HANDSOME AND APPEALING BINDING BY RIVIERE. THE HAUNTED MAN was Dickens' fifth and final Christmas book. It, like the others proved very popular and went into re-print many times after its original introduction in 1848.*

\$1850.



**Charles Dickens - '*Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit*'**  
**A Fine and Very Handsomely Bound First Edition**



5 Dickens, Charles. *THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF MARTIN CHUZZLEWIT* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1844) First edition, first issue, with "100£" on the signpost in the engraved frontispiece. With frontispiece and 39 engravings after illustrations by 'Phiz'. 8vo, handsomely bound in fine 3/4 antique morocco over cloth boards, the spines with raised bands gilt ruled, lettered in gilt in two compartments bordered in blind, a.e.g., fine marbled endleaves. xiv, errata, 624. A very handsome and appealing copy in an unusually fine state of preservation. A few plates with the typical aging, but a copy generally free of the inevitable toning associated with the engravings in copies of Dickens' first edition novels.

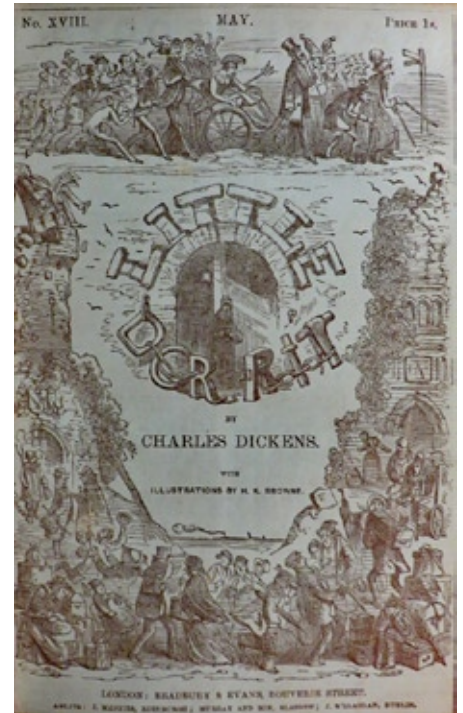
*FINE AND SCARCE FIRST EDITION.* Some critics have stated that this novel is Dickens at his best, with the character Pecksniff being one of Dicken's most brilliant contributions to English literature. Critics generally agree that while *MARTIN CHUZZLEWIT* is somewhat roughly put together in its artistic structure, it more than makes up for it in its brilliant character development and descriptive prose that reveal Dickens' talents

at their finest. "In [the book] he displays the fulness of his preservative power, the ripeness of his humour, the richest flow of his satiric vivacity, and the culmination of his melodramatic vigour." Some declare that the character of Pecksniff to be one of Dickens' most brilliant contributions to English literature; Gissing calls him and Mrs. Gamp "masterpieces of genius in its happiest mood." Gissing, 72-88; Eckel. \$1495.

### Handsomely Bound and Illustrated First Edition Charles Dickens - *Little Dorrit*

6 Dickens, Charles. LITTLE DORRIT (London: Bradbury and Evans, 1857) First edition bound from the original parts, first issue with the points as called for including: the three line errata on page xiv, "William" for "Frederick" on page 317 line 27, B2 instead of BB2 on pp. 371, lacking errata on page 467, and "Rigaud" for "Blandois" on pp. 469, 470, 472, and 473. With 40 engraved illustrations by Phiz (H.K. Browne) including the frontispiece and vignette title-page. 8vo, bound in contemporary three-quarter tan calf over boards, lettered in gilt on a green morocco lettering piece, spine with raised bands lined and decorated in gilt. xiv, 623 pp. A handsome copy, very well preserved, spine a touch mellowed, one original wrapper bound in, some usual mellowing to plates, a fine, unwashed, clean and honest copy.

FIRST EDITION FROM THE ORIGINAL PARTS. Bound in a handsome antique binding. LITTLE DORRIT was published in 19 monthly installments, each two illustrations by Phiz. Each installment cost a shilling, with the exception of the last, a double issue, which cost two shillings. It is a work of satire on the shortcomings of the government and society of the period. Much of Dickens' ire is focused upon the institutions of debtors' prisons—in which people who owed money were imprisoned, unable to work, until they repaid their debts. The representative prison in this case is the Marshalsea where the author's own father had been imprisoned. \$1150.



### First Edition Charles Dickens - *Master Humphrey's Clock* *The First Book Forms of Barnaby Rudge and* *The Old Curiosity Shop* - Handsomely Bound at the Time

7 Dickens, Charles. MASTER HUMPHREY'S CLOCK (being, OLD CURIOSITY SHOP and BARNABY RUDGE) (London: Chapman and Hall, 1840, 1841) 3 volumes. First edition. With 198 drawings by George Cattermole and Hablot Browne. Royal 8vo, bound in handsome period three-quarter tan calf over marbled boards, the borders ruled in blind, the spines very handsomely decorated with wide raised bands gilt decorated, compartments decorated with gilt panel designs incorporating fine central ornamental pieces, two compartments gilt lettered over maroon morocco labels, all edges marbled. iv, 306, vi, 306, vi, 426. A handsome and well preserved set, internally quite clean and fresh with very little aging, the bindings in a fine state of preservation.

MASTER HUMPHREY'S CLOCK was initially an experiment on Dickens' part. He originally intended it to be a miscellany which would contain a continuous narrative linked by reminiscences of the narrator, Master Humphrey. He outlined his goals in a preliminary letter to Chapman and Hall: "To introduce a little club or knot of characters and to carry their personal histories and proceedings through the work; to introduce fresh characters constantly; to re-introduce Mr. Pickwick and Sam Weller; [xxx] to write amusing essays on the various foibles of the day as they arise; to take advantage of passing events; and to vary the form of the papers by throwing them into sketches, letters from imaginary correspondents, and so forth, so as to diversify the contents as much as

possible." Dickens would use ideas from the outline of this form in several succeeding books.

As the originally-conceived miscellany, *MASTER HUMPHREY'S CLOCK* failed to gain a substantial readership, so the project was quickly abandoned, the story transformed into a serial, and the character of Master Humphrey himself abandoned as a narrator in the midst of *THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP*. According to Eckel, the work was published in four distinct forms over the course of its creation: in 88 weekly parts, 30 monthly parts, a three-volume edition, and in separately bound volumes of the two stories, "The Old Curiosity Shop" and "Barnaby Rudge." The three volume sets have become scarce indeed, especially so in such a fine state of preservation.

According to Eckel, this work was published in four distinct forms: in 88 weekly parts, 30 monthly parts, a three-volume edition, and in separately bound volumes of the two stories, "The Old Curiosity Shop" and "Barnaby Rudge." "In the latter form," he states, "all the extraneous 'Clock' matter had been expunged, but was retained in the other forms of publication." The three volume sets have become scarce indeed and especially so in such a fine state of preservation. Podeschi A51; Eckel pp. 67-68.

\$1650.

### **Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend* - 1865 First Edition - In Handsome Antique Full Morocco**

8 Dickens, Charles. *OUR MUTUAL FRIEND* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1865) 2 volumes bound as one, retaining both original titlepages. First edition. Numerous illustrations by Marcus Stone. 8vo, in contemporary three-quarter pebble near black dark green morocco over marbled boards. The spines finely decorated with multi-ruled gilt framed compartments bordered with floral vine tools separated by raised gilt decorated bands, two compartments gilt lettered, edges marbled. xi, 320; [3], viii, 306. A very nice and proper copy, the text very clean and fresh and solid, the binding with some expected age mellowing but still quite handsome.

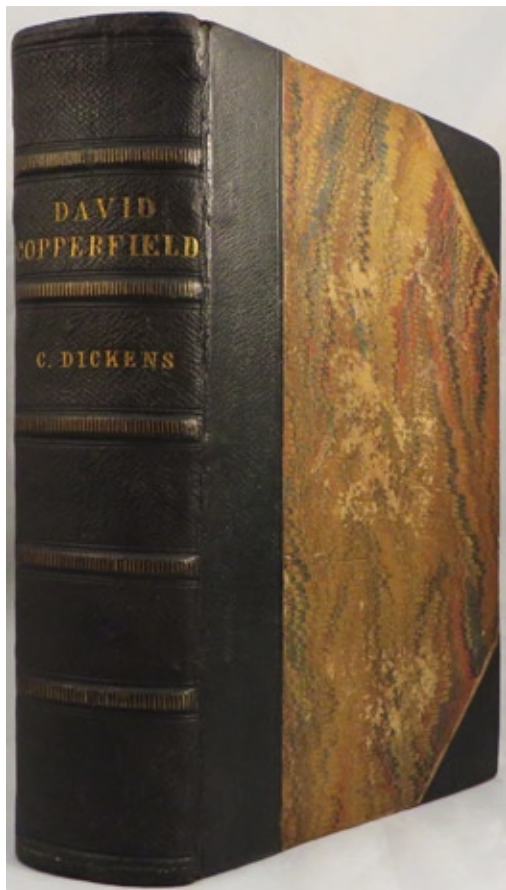
*FIRST EDITION*, this was the second to last book that Dickens would write, and the last one that he would actually finish. The years shortly before the publication of *OUR MUTUAL FRIEND* were fraught with domestic sorrow that would lead to his eventual decline. He separated from his wife Catherine in 1858 after his admiration for the young actress Ellen Ternan strained his already deteriorating marriage. He further had to defend himself against scandal and protest his innocence when wagging tongues of gossip linked his name to his sister-in-law Georgina's who had served as his housekeeper for many years. He threw his restless energy into increased productivity and public readings of his work, both of which were physically and emotionally exhausting. He suffered from recurrent illnesses during the creation of *OUR MUTUAL FRIEND*, but nonetheless managed to maintain the level of genius in his prose that had pervaded his previous works. He died unexpectedly only five years later, while he was writing *THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD*.



Like most of Dickens' work, *OUR MUTUAL FRIEND* was published in monthly serial parts, the first in May of 1864 and the last in November of 1865. This two-volume set was released almost immediately after the issue of the final episode. An extremely well-preserved set of the first edition of one of Dickens' final efforts. Eckel, 94; Oxford Comp. to Eng. Lit, 272-73.

\$950.

***David Copperfield - A Fine First Edition - Charles Dickens***  
**Handsomely Bound in 19th Century Period Morocco**



9 Dickens, Charles. THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD (London: Bradbury & Evans, 1850) First edition. With 39 illustrations by H. K. Browne 8vo, contemporary three-quarter black-green morocco over marbled boards, very handsomely tooled in gilt on the raised bands of the spine, lettered in gilt in two compartments. xiv, 624. A very handsome copy, quite fine, and with only some mild, unobtrusive evidence of age to the covers and with much, much less than the usual toning to the plates.

*FINE FIRST EDITION. For many lovers of the author's works, DAVID COPPERFIELD ranks as the finest of his writings. "Of all my books," Dickens wrote, "I like this the best; like many fond parents I have my favourite child, and his name is David Copperfield." It is certainly Dickens' most personal and autobiographical work, especially in the remarkable early chapters describing David's provincial upbringing and his experiences in the bleak warehouses of London. Abounding in vivid characters such as Uriah Heep, Betsy Trotwood, Mr. Micawber, the Pegottys and Mr. Dick, DAVID COPPERFIELD continues to rank among Dickens' most popular and critically acclaimed works. In this work, Dickens displays his talents well: "his inordinate gift of observation, his sympathy with the humble, his power over the emotions and his incomparable endowment of unalloyed human fun... It gave what were then universally referred to as 'the lower orders' a new sense of self-respect, a new feeling of citizenship. Like the defiance of another Luther, or the Declaration of a new Independence, it emitted a fresh ray of hope across the firmament." [EB] In this way, Dickens' work is significant on many levels.*

\$2950.

***Through Italy and France With Charles Dickens***  
**First Edition - Original Cloth - Pictures From Italy**

10 Dickens, Charles. PICTURES FROM ITALY (London: Bradbury and Evans, 1846) First edition, with the first state of the binding and ad leaf. With four Vignette illustrations from woodcuts by Samuel Palmer. Small 8vo, in the publisher's original bright blue cloth cloth decorated on both covers and spine in blind, the spine lettered in gilt. 270, 2 ads. A very nice copy of this charming little book, internally clean and fresh. The blue cloth bright with no fading and just a bit of expected bumping to the extremities and minor wear to the spine tips.

*A VERY NICE COPY INDEED. FIRST EDITION, FIRST STATE. A beautiful reminiscence of a tour through Italy by one of England's greatest writers. Dickens provides for the armchair traveler a descriptive journey through some of the most scenic areas and cities in Italy and France. His poetic and descriptive style, made famous in his many novels, is well suited to this type of travel log. Eckel pp. 126-7; Smith Part II, 7.*

\$1250.



**Charles Dickens' Great Work - A Tale of Two Cities  
In the Publisher's Original Green Cloth**



11 Dickens, Charles. A TALE OF TWO CITIES (London: Chapman and Hall, 1860) First edition, RARE issue with 1860 title and 213 numbered correctly. With 16 illustrations by H. K. Browne, including a frontispiece and vignette title page. 8vo, publisher's original green cloth. viii, 254 A very nice copy, very well preserved and with only light wear.

*VERY RARE AND ONE OF THE MOST ELUSIVE STATES OF THE FIRST EDITION. A handsome first edition in original cloth of Dickens' great work about the terrors and turmoil of the French revolution. According to Jarndyce the 3rd issue has the date of 1860 on the title-page instead of 1859 and page 213 is numbered correctly. The green cloth binding is identical to the cloth of the 1859 issues.*

*TALE OF TWO CITIES ranks amongst the most*

*famous works in the history of literary fiction. It is one of only two works of historical fiction by Charles Dickens and stands out from most of Dickens's other novels as the one containing the least humour. That is not surprising, as the historical context of the novel, the French Revolution and Reign of Terror, were a bit bleak to allow for the wackier characters Dickens is known for. This fact has in no way impacted the novel's popularity, it has never been out of print and by the start of the 21th century had sold an estimated 200 million copies worldwide. jarndyce.*

\$5950.

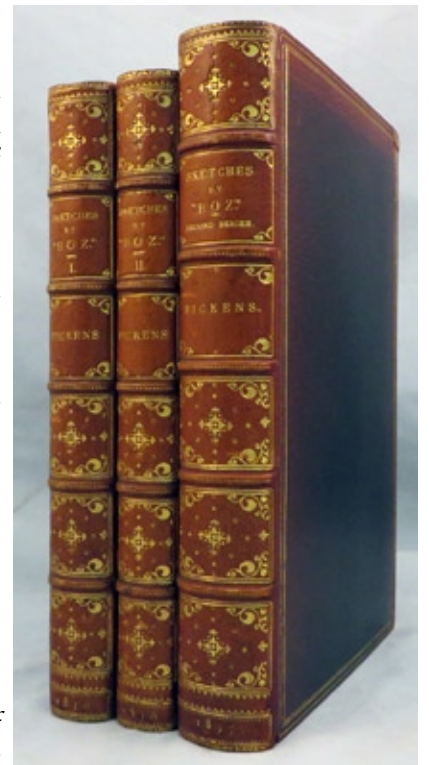
**The True First Editions of Dickens' First Great Books  
Sketches By "Boz" and Sketches by "Boz" (II)  
Published in London - 1836 and 1837 - Beautifully Bound**

12 (Dickens, Charles) "Boz". SKETCHES BY "BOZ", Illustrative of Every-Day Life and Every-Day People. WITH SKETCHES BY "BOZ", THE SECOND SERIES (London: James Macrone, 1836, 1837) 3 volumes. First editions of both works. 8vo, in a fine full olive morocco binding signed by Zaehnsdorf, ruled in gilt on covers. Very fine gilt decorations and lettering between raised bands of the spine. Gilt turn-ins. Fine decorative end-papers. 348; 342; 377, 17 ads. pp. A fine set, the binding very handsome with the spines lightly toned to honey.

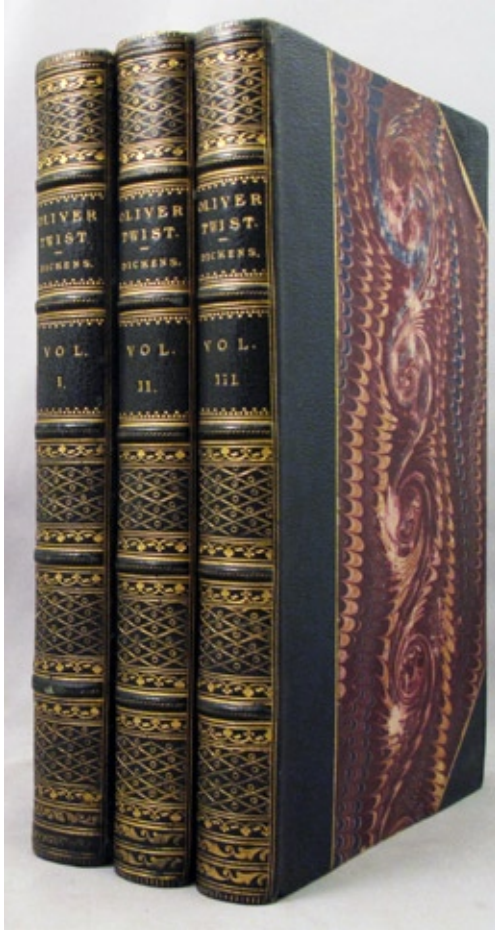
*RARE FIRST EDITIONS OF BOTH WORKS. SKETCHES BY BOZ was Dickens first work to be published in book form. "It is a fact that first books by authors that go on to attain great eminence are the most difficult to acquire in collector's condition. Early in the collecting period of Dickens' publications it seems that the very best copies came to the surface first. Then the state of the books began to wane until at the present period Sketches by Boz make an appearance far from satisfactory." This is especially true with Dickens.*

*In addition to the importance of Dickens in world literature, this 'Sketches' also features the light-hearted illustrations of George Cruikshank. The Second Series contains a catalogue of Macrone publications and features an ad for the novel GABRIEL VARDON by Charles Dickens, which would be reissued as BARNABY RUDGE.*

*Dickens received only £400 as his share of the 'Sketches' while Macrone received ten times that amount. Because 'Pickwick' was by this time a "stupendous" success, Macrone decided to issue 'Sketches' in monthly parts. He was the absolute owner of the copyright and so decided to "press the popularity of the rising young author to the*



limit." But Dickens began to consider his deal with Macrone a bad one and backed by Chapman and Hall, bought the rights for £2250. As partners they published 'Sketches' in parts and went on to publish the bulk of Dickens' work. \$7950.



**One of Charles Dickens' Greatest Works  
The True First Edition, First Issue, Three Decker  
*Oliver Twist...the Parish Boy's Progress - London - 1838***

13 [Dickens, Charles]; Boz. OLIVER TWIST; or, The Parish Boy's Progress (London: Richard Bentley, 1838) 3 volumes. First edition, first issue with the Fireside p64late and Boz on the title page. With 24 engravings by George Cruikshank. 8vo, very handsomely bound in antique three quarter green morocco over marbled boards, the spines beautifully decorated with raised bands gilt stopped and double gilt ruled, compartments elaborately gilt tooled, two compartments lettered in gilt, t.e.g. (4), 331; (4), 307; (2), 313 pp. An unusually nice set of the rare first issue, bindings in a fine state of preservation, the gilt clean and bright, the dark-green morocco still without fading.

*A VERY HANDSOME SET OF THE FIRST EDITION AND ISSUE OF OLIVER TWIST. This was Dickens's second novel, following quickly on the enormous success of THE PICKWICK PAPERS. It was published in volume form six months before it was completed in serial form, and Frederic Kitton states that 35 London booksellers contracted for only 528 copies. But although those London booksellers may have had their initial doubts, the book was and still is one of Dickens' most popular novels.*

*The bindings are especially pleasing on this set and the text is unusually clean and fresh. Podeschi A28. Smith, p. 30.  
\$5850.*

All items are offered subject to prior sale.  
Prices are nett, shipping and insurance are extra.  
Contact us to place orders by phone, fax or email  
All books are returnable within ten days, we  
ask that you notify us by phone or email in advance  
Massachusetts residents are requested to include 6.25% state sales tax