



Christ's College Library, Cambridge

Sponsor-a-Book

2019-20



Items Available for Sponsorship

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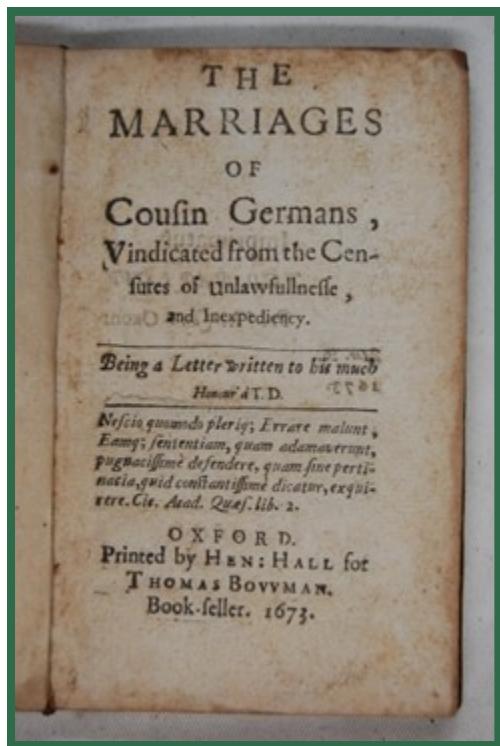


Christ's College, Cambridge
Sponsor a Book Scheme, 2019-2020

Sponsor a Book book-plate

Items Available for Sponsorship

Samuel Dugard, *The Marriages of Cousin Germans* (1673)



Cost: £210

"Cousin German" is a Middle English term designating what nowadays we would call first cousins. Samuel Dugard (?1645-1697), may have written this book specifically in response to a 1649 text by Bishop Joseph Hall of Norwich (1574-1656) that used scripture to rule against the practice of cousins marrying. A Fellow of Trinity College from 1667, Dugard had reason to take a personal interest in the matter, because in 1672 he himself married his cousin Lydia and, upon her death in 1675, married another of his cousins, Elizabeth.

Our copy, donated by former Christ's College Fellow the Rev. Alfred Valentine-Richards (1866-1933), also includes two other works on the same subject, both by John Turner, a Christ's Fellow from 1673-81. Like Bishop Hall's text, these are also critical of the practice of marriage between cousins.

Our copy has a detached front board and a split at the top of the back joint. Both will need to be repaired and some surface cleaning performed

Ref.: SB19-20/1

A Book of Tracts (17th century)



Cost: £230

Two of the three tracts in this fragile volume comprise important medical treatises. The first is Marcello Malpighi's (1628-94) *De Viscerum Structura Exercitatio Anatomica*, published in 1669 and dealing mainly with the liver, kidneys, and brain; the second is the *De Statica Medicina* of another famous Italian physician from an earlier time, Santorio Santorio of Venice (1561-1636). The third tract is by Sir William Petty (1623-87), member of the Royal Society and friend of Samuel Pepys (1633-1703); it covers a variety of scientific (but not medical) topics, including philosophies relating to matter and motion, which, the author claims, "a child of 12 years old may learn in an hour".

Unfortunately we cannot know who brought these three tracts together, and when. However, the volume is listed in the Library's handwritten catalogue of 1736, so was clearly in our collection by that time.

The book is in its original cheap binding, with paper covers and thin leather back-strip, which has split and requires repair. Surface cleaning is also needed.

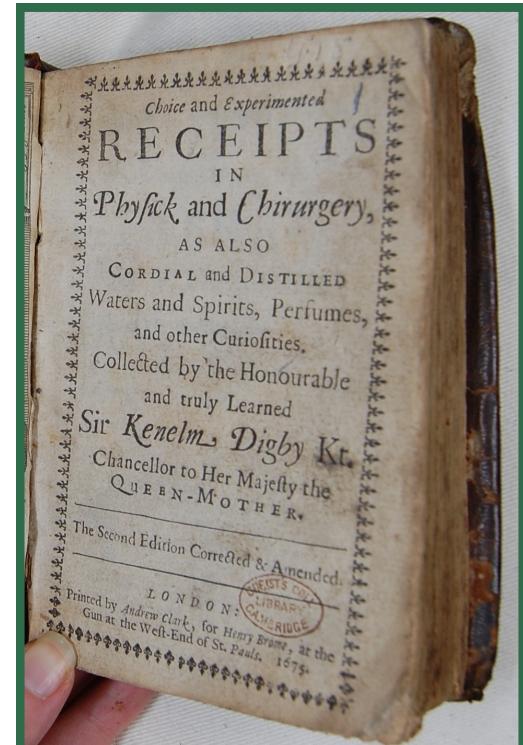
Ref.: SB19-20/2

Kenelm Digby, *Choice and Experimented Receipts in Physick* (1675)

Choice and Experimented Receipts is a fascinating example of a medical 'receipt' or recipe book. Such manuals of domestic medicine were an extremely popular genre in the early modern period, at a time when the majority of medical care was administered at home. Diverse treatments are offered: from "Wounds or Sores in Man or Beast" cured with "Hog's grease" to a "cordial water of sweet marjoram" for the "head and the memory".

Sir Kenelm Digby (1603-65) was a voracious collector of books and manuscripts from all over Europe. Many of Digby's receipts name-drop eminent contacts but others are more clearly a result of his own experimentation.

Though worn through use, the binding of this charming volume requires minimal intervention. However, surface cleaning and paper repairs are needed to stabilise the text block for future consultation and display.



Ref.: SB19-20/3

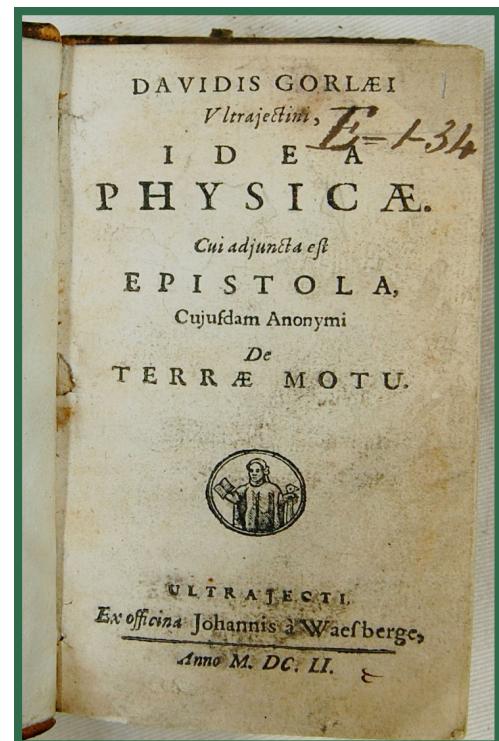
Cost: £230

Joachim of Fiore, *Vaticinia, siue Prophetiae Abbatis*

Printed in Venice in 1589, this bilingual (Latin and Italian) volume contains a series of prophecies relating to future Popes, attributed to the late 12th-century Italian monk Joachim of Fiore. While this attribution is incorrect, the text was remarkably popular, both in manuscript and printed forms. Its presence in an English collection is unusual.

By 1589, England was firmly Protestant and had weathered several Catholic plots against Queen Elizabeth. Most Catholic believers considered the prognostications of this book to be true, so perhaps it was acquired by a Protestant who wished to mock the beliefs of Catholics on the Continent. Alternatively, the charming and sometimes bizarre illustrations may have intrigued purchasers.

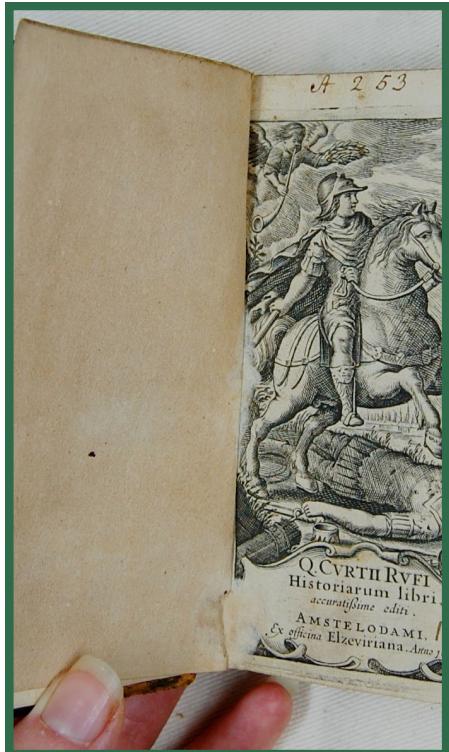
Sponsorship would allow for gentle surface cleaning of stains and for repairs to the binding.



Ref.: SB19-20/4

Cost: £230

Quintus Curtius Rufus, *Q. Curtii Rifi Historiarum Libri* (1660)



This classical text is the only known work of the somewhat mysterious Roman historian Quintus Curtius Rufus (dates unknown). Commonly titled *Historia Alexandri Magni*, or "History of Alexander the Great", the printed text derives from an incomplete 9th-century manuscript which bears Rufus' name. Apart from this, nothing certain is known of Rufus, which has led to much speculation about his identity. His works enjoyed a revival during the Renaissance, particularly in Italy, where he was idolised.

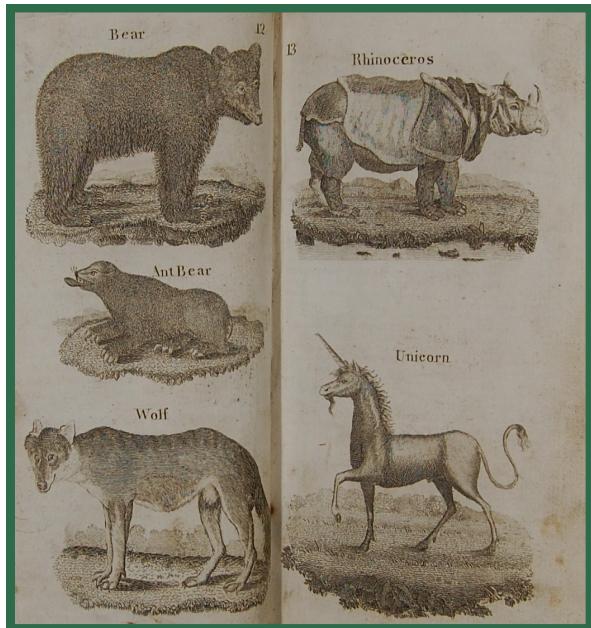
This 17th-century duodecimo edition of his work was printed in Amsterdam and boasts a fine engraving of Alexander the Great (356-323BC) triumphantly astride his horse Bucephalus, trampling an unfortunate enemy.

Sponsorship would allow extensive paper repairs to the text block, which shows signs of munching!

Cost: £480

Ref.: SB19-20/5

Thomas Boreman, *A Description of Above Three Hundred Animals* (1797)



"The Humming-bird is the least of all birds: the head, together with the feathers, is of the bigness of a mean-sized sweet cherry". 300 such imaginative descriptions grace the pages of Thomas Boreman's (fl.1730-43) illustrated guide to worldly (and occasionally otherworldly) birds and beasts. Boreman was the first publisher to primarily target the juvenile market, and this innovative item was the "first work on natural history published for children". The book was extremely popular, running to 38 editions by the end of the 19th century, and influenced many later natural history publications, as well as Thomas Bewick's (1753-1828) renowned engravings.

Sponsorship of this pioneering work would allow extensive repairs to the text block and delicate fold-out engravings, as well as support of a split front board and torn end caps.

Cost: £480

Ref.: SB19-20/6

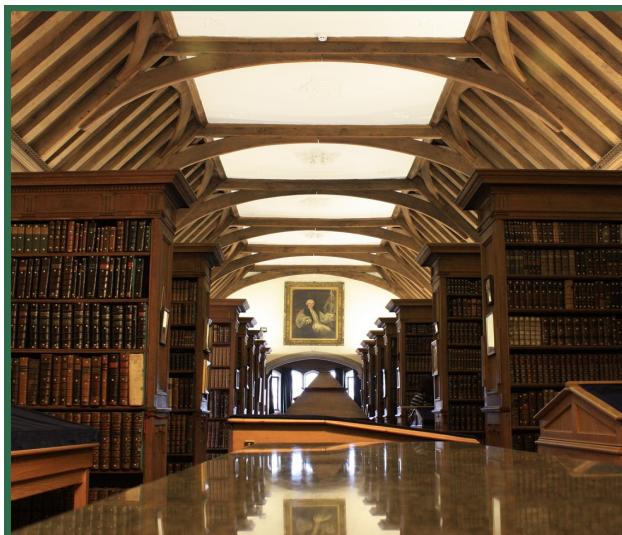
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Please quote the reference number(s) of the item(s) that you are interested in sponsoring. These can be found at the bottom of the item entries.

Thank you for helping to support the conservation of Christ's College's unique collections.



Old Library, Christ's College Cambridge



Model of HMS *Beagle*, Christ's College Cambridge