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## Swann Galleries' April Early Printed Books Auction Highlights Central Asian Travel

New York— On **Tuesday, April 12**, Swann Galleries will hold an auction of **Early Printed, Medical, Scientific & Travel Books**, featuring early English books and travel texts focusing on the exploration of Central Asia.

Standouts among the travel books include a first edition of John Biddulph's *Tribes of the Hindoo Koosh*, Calcutta, 1880, previously owned by the anthropologist Sir James Frazer, writer of *The Golden Bough*. *Tribes of the Hindoo Koosh* is estimated at \$1,000 to \$2,000. A first edition of Sir Alexander Cunningham's *Ladák, Physical, Statistical and Historical*, London, 1854, will also be on offer (\$2,000 to \$3,000). A pioneer in the field of mountaineering and climbing companion to the famous Aleister Crowley, Oscar Johannes Ludwig Eckenstein's *The Karakorams and Kashmir, An Account of a Journey*, first edition, London, 1896, is included in the auction (\$800 to \$1,200). Completing the strong travel section is a run of works by Hungarian-British archaeologist Sir Marc Aurel Stein, including a first edition of *Serindia: Detailed Report of Explorations in Central Asia and Westernmost China*, Oxford, 1921. This five-volume set is from the library of Stein's friend and collaborator Fred H. Andrews and is estimated at \$6,000 to \$9,000.

The medical books selection features a scarce first edition of Matthew Turner's *An Account of the Extraordinary Medicinal Fluid, called Aether*, [Liverpool], 1761, in which Turner advocated the use of ether for a wide variety of ailments, including headaches and other pain (\$5,000 to \$7,000). Another rarity is an early pharmacy manual, *Lumen apothecariorum*, Venice, 21 January 1512, by Quiricus de Augustus (\$1,500 to \$2,500). *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, Robert Burton's extensive study of depression, is also featured. A second edition published in Oxford, 1624, *The Anatomy of Melancholy* is one of the most popular psychiatric texts ever published (\$1,500 to \$2,500).

Among scientific books is Marcel Tolkowsky's *Diamond Design*, first edition, London & New York, 1919, the first systematic mathematical analysis of the optics of diamonds (\$1,000 to \$2,000). Also included is Petrus Constantius Albinus's *Magia astrologica*, Paris, 1611, a commentary on a work by

**MORE**

Petrus Arlensis de Scudalupis dealing with the astrological relations of metals and gems with planets (\$1,000 to \$2,000).

The early printed books section of the sale features a first edition of *Nova legenda Anglie*, (London, 27 February 1516), a compilation of English saints' lives by 14th-century chronicler John of Tynemouth (\$8,000 to \$12,000); as well as a handsome second edition three-volume set of Raphael Holinshed's *Chronicles ... to the Yeare 1586*, (London, 1587), "the first continuous and authoritative narrative account of British history written in the vernacular," and the principal source for Shakespeare's history plays (\$6,000 to \$9,000). Also included is a first edition of Reginald Scot's *The Discoverie of Witchcraft*, (London), 1584, "the first English-language discourse on witchcraft and conjuring tricks" (\$10,000 to \$15,000).

The auction will be held Tuesday, April 12, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The auction preview will be open to the public Friday, April 8 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, April 9 from noon to 5 p.m.; Monday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 6p.m.; and Tuesday, April 12 from 10 a.m. to noon.

An illustrated auction catalogue is available for \$35 from Swann Galleries, Inc., 104 East 25th Street, New York, NY 10010, or online at [www.swannalleries.com](http://www.swannalleries.com).

For further information or to make advance arrangements to bid by telephone during the auction, please contact Early Printed Books Specialist Tobias Abeloff at 212-254-4710, extension 18 or [tabeloff@swannalleries.com](mailto:tabeloff@swannalleries.com).

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