



Special Collections and University Archives

**Pages from the Past: Original leaves from Rare Books and Manuscripts
Manuscript Group 178**

**For Scholarly Use Only
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**Pages from the Past: Original leaves from Rare Books and Manuscripts; Manuscript Group 178
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
4 folios; 4 linear feet**

Historical Information

The “Pages from the Past: Original leaves from Rare Books and Manuscripts” (1964) were proprietorial folios that Alfred W. Stites assembled, individually signed, and marketed to academic libraries in the 1960s. In 1966, Stites was president of Stites Associates in Washington, DC, and he amassed several thousand leaves that were removed from rare books and manuscripts and collected by earlier bibliophiles. The original intent of the creation of these folio collections was to address “the concern of rare book collectors today, that the price of a book only a few centuries old had become too costly.” The folios created an affordable way for academic libraries to purchase many examples of artifacts, rare books, and manuscripts.

Please note that although these folios have educational and research potential for those interested in the history of the written word and European printing presses, the IUP Special Collections and University Archives does not condone the unnecessary separation of leaves from any rare book or manuscript. Stites created 122 portfolio sets of leaves removed from rare books and manuscripts that were sold to academic libraries (including the IUP Libraries).

For a brief history about the “Pages from the Past: Original Leaves from Rare Books and Manuscripts” (1964) folios and Alfred W. Stites, go to [Foliophiles Publishing](#). The folios contain individual leaves removed from identified rare books and manuscripts dating from mostly the 12th century to the 20th century, but the folios also contain earlier examples of the written word dating back to perhaps 2112 BC. The numbered sets contained selected individual leaves (single or double-sided pages) of the written and printed word from ancient times to the 20th century. This collection contains examples of the following artifacts a Cuneiform Tablet, a Babylonian Cylinder Seal, and an Egyptian Scarab Beetle. Each artifact, or leaf from a rare book or manuscript was identified with typed labels that are copyrighted between 1961 and 1964 with the initials T.F.I.

Scope and Content

The IUP Special Collections and University Archives has a similar 4-volume folio collection of the “Pages from the Past: Original leaves from Rare Books and Manuscripts” (1964) that are available at the Miami University Special Collections ([Call Number: Z4 .P33 1964](#)). These folios were assembled and marketed to academic libraries. The 4-volume folio collection is available for research in the IUP Special Collections and University Archives, and it includes seven sets or series: Set 1 The History of the Written Word; Set 2 Western Literature; Set 3 Bibles; Set 4 Woodcuts and Engravings; Set 5 Famous Presses and Set 6: Religions of the World; Set 7 Writing over the Ages. All original set numbering system in () are the original hand-lettered numbers assigned to each set folio page, and each of the seven sets are complete.

Provenance

The folios in this collection were purchased by the IUP Special Collections and University Archives in the 1960s. A certificate in Set 1 that accompanied the collection states that “Pages from the Past: Original leaves from Rare Books and Manuscripts,” this is collection number 11 out of 20 numbered sets,” signed by Alfred W. Stites.

Restrictions

None, this collection is available for research.

Processor

The folios were assembled by Alfred W. Stites in Washington, DC, and he marketed the folio sets to academic libraries in 1960s. The collection was reorganized and research was conducted by Amanda Pirone. The collection finding aid for the folios was written by Harrison Wick on January 29, 2015.

Container List

Folio 1 – Set 1: The History of the Written Word; and Set 2 Western Literature

Folio 2 – Set 3: Bibles; and Set 4 Woodcuts and Engravings

Folio 3 – Set 5: Famous Presses; and Set 6: Religions of the World

Folio 4 – Set 7: Writing over the Ages

Vault Cabinet (4 folios)**Folio 1 – Set 1: The History of the Written Word; and Set 2: Western Literature****Set 1: The History of the Written Word**

1. (4) Egyptian Scarab (circa 1000 BC) early signature seal, scarab beetle was the means of identification by ancient Egyptians for more than 100 years
2. (5) Greek Papyrus (100-300 AD) two examples of Greek Papyrus, rare fragments about law and daily life
3. (11) Biblia Latina (1478) incunabula printed in Venice by Reynsburch and Novimago
4. (12) *Fasciculus Temporum* (1485) early outline of history written by W. Rollewinck, printed in Venice by Ratdolt
5. (13) *Chronicarum Supplementum Initials* (1486) incunabula printed in Venice
6. (17) *The Propositions of Aristotle* (1493) incunabula printed in Venice
7. (24) *Horace* (1498) first illustrated edition, printed by Gruninger at Strassburg
8. (25) *Opus Trivium* (1500) written by English theologian Jean Bromyard, printed in Lyons
9. (35) *Tabulae Eclipsium* (1514) written by astronomers Purbach and Regiomontanus, printed in Venice, well known early European scientific work
10. (40) French Liturgical Manuscript (1517) printed on vellum in Northern France
11. (61) Breviary or Portiforium (1555) printed in London by Lyngston and Sutton using Caxton's type No. 3
12. (66) *English Book of Laws* (1559) printed in London during the first year of Queen Elizabeth I's reign (1558-1603)
13. (73) Roman Missal (1576) with woodcuts typical of late Renaissance
14. (74) *Plutarch's Lives* (1579) first edition of North's translation, printed by Thomas Vautrollier in London, fine example of Elizabethan printing
15. (80) *Anatome Corporis Humani* (1586) printed by the Giunta Press in Venice, Italian translation under the supervision of author Valverde
16. (82) *The Collected Works of Chaucer* or *The works of our ancient and learned English poet, Geoffrey Chaucer* (1598) edited by Thomas Speght and printed by Adam Islip in London. The complete first and second editions (1602) of the works by Geoffrey Chaucer (1343-1400) are available (Call Number: PR 1850 1598g and PR 1850 1602 Special Collections)

17. (85) *Spiegel der Schrift Konzpte* (1605) German title printed in Rotterdam by Jan von der Velde, unusual calligraphy
18. (90) Hebrew Penetateuch (1617-1618) printed by Roviere in Geneva
19. (93) William Camden's *Annalles of Elizabeth* (1625) Darcie's translation, printed in London
20. (97) Callot Etching (circa 1630), Jacques Callot (1592-1635) Lorraine phase
21. (102) *Book of Rituals* (1639) printed with woodcuts from the press of John Barker in London
22. (105) Spanish Antiphonary (17th century) Spanish Choir Book
23. (106) Italian Manuscript (mid-17th century)
24. (108) *Custumes de Touraine* (1661) a digest of laws printed at Tours by Estienne La Tour
25. (115) The New Testament in Greek (1678) printed by Elzevir
26. (117) *Shakespeare's Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies* (1685) from the fourth folio, printed in London, William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
27. (151) Audubon Lithograph (1856) second edition, printed by the Philadelphia Printing Company in New York
28. (154) Stories by Bret Hart (1872) first illustrated edition, published by J. R. Osgood Company in Boston
29. (156) *The Book of Wisdom and Lies* (1894) written by William Morris (1834-1896) and printed at the Kelmscott Press in London
30. (157) *Child Christopher and Goldilind the Fair* (1895) written by fantasy writer William Morris (1834-1896), and printed at the Kelmscott Press in London

Folio 1 (continued)

Set 2: Western Literature

1. (2) *Vocabularius Praedicantium Sive Variloguus* (1488) written by Johannes Melber and printed in Strassburg
2. (8) A Collection of Minor Classical Authors (1516) printed at the Aldine Press in Venice
3. (10) German Manuscript (1551) theological diatribe of the Reformation, signed by five Protestant pastors
4. (14) *The Four Books of Husbandry* (1596) translated by Barnaby Googe or Goodge (1540-1594) Elizabethan pastoral poet
5. (17) *A Book of European Travels* (1615) written by English author George Sandys (1577-1644) printed in London
6. (18) Burton's *Anatomy of Melancholy* (1632) compilation of medieval lore, printed by John Litchfield
7. (20) *The Works of Benjamin Johnson* (1640) printed by Richard Bishop in London, second folio
8. (23) *The New World of Words* (1678) general English dictionary
9. (25) John Dryden's Translation of *Virgil* (1697) first edition, published by Jacob Tonson in London. John Dryden (1631-1700)
10. (26) Illuminated Persian Manuscript (circa 1700) glazed paper
11. (27) Lucan's *Pharsalia* (1718) printed by Jacob Tonson in London
12. (28) *The Sonnets Antonmaria Salvini* (1728) printed by Jacob Tonson in London
13. (29) Two early American School Books (late 1700s) leaves of early American text books
14. (31) *The Works of Shakespeare* (1796) first edition of the Shakespeare published in the New World, printed in Philadelphia. William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
15. (32) Illuminated Persian Manuscript (early 19th century) literature on glazed paper

16. (35) Famous Miniature Books: *Paradise Lost* (1828) by John Milton and printed by Pickering; *Horace* (1828) printed by Mesnier in Paris; *History of Savoy* (1634) printed by Elzevir in Leyden
17. (36) *The New York Mirror* and *Ladies Literary Gazette* (1829-1830) printed by J. Seymour in New York
18. (40) Persian Manuscript (early 17th century) *Shahnama* of Firdausi, poem in Persian language
19. (41) Italian Manuscript (12th century) *Officium Beate Marie Virginis*. Italian scribe
20. (42) *History of his own times* (1553) written by Paulus Javius, Bishop of Nocera, printed by Michael Vascosanus in Paris

Folio 2 – Set 3: Bibles; and Set 4: Woodcuts and Engravings

Set 3: Bibles

1. Latin Version of the Bible (1497) printed in Venice
2. Hebrew Bible (1544) printed in Hebrew by Robert Estienne in Paris
3. Matthew's Bible (1551) printed by Hyll in London
4. The Latin Version of the Bible (1558) Paris
5. *Bibla Sacra* (1580) first edition of the first Bible printed in Latin in London
6. Martin Luther's German Translation of the Bible (1584) published in Wittenburg, printed in German type-face known as *fraktur*
7. The New Testament in English (1600) done by Romanist refugees in England, the complete Bible is the Rhemes and Douay version, printed in Antwerp by Daniel Vervliet
8. *King James Bible* (1611) three leaves from the first edition of the Authorized Version printed in London by Robert Barker
9. *King James Bible* (1612) popular format printed by Robert Barker in London
10. The Vulgate Edition of the Bible (1628) printed in Antwerp by Plantin Press
11. German Bible Miniature (1664) printed in Frankfurt
12. Holy Bible (1669) edited by Pope Sixtus V and Clemens VIII and printed by Pezzana in Venice
13. The Old Testament in Irish (1685) first printed translation of the Bible in the Irish language. Translated by the Bishop of Kilmore and printed in London
14. Sauer's German Bible (1776) printed in Germantown, Pennsylvania
15. (16) Matthew's Bible (1551) printed by Hyll in London

Folio 2 (continued)

Set 4: Woodcuts and Engravings

1. *Nuremberg Chronicle* (1493) leaf from first edition printed by Koberger, see modern facsimile and translation (Call Numbers: D 17 .S341 2009 and D 17 .S3413 2010 Special Collections)
2. *Stultifera Navis* or *Ship of Fools* (1498) written by Sebastian Brant, incunabula
3. *Commentaries of Boetius* (1512) printed by Zanutus de Castelliono of Milan
4. *Hortus Santatis* (1517) famous work of the Middle Ages, treating plants, minerals, and other sources of drugs. Printed by Beck at Strassburg
5. *Aeneis Vergiliana* or *Virgil's Aeneid* (1517) printed at Lyons by Jacobus Sacon
6. History of Religious Order (early 16th century) carefully worked copper plate engravings
7. *Las Quatorze Decadas de Tito Livio* (1520) printed in Saragossa. Spanish translation of Livy set in Gothic type with woodcuts.
8. *The Life of Jesus Christ* (early 16th century) Dutch translation from the Latin, printed by Peter van Ghele at Antwerp

9. (10) *The Twelve Books of the Orations of Quintilian* (1527) printed by Pierre Vidoue in Paris, distinctive style of Holbein
10. (11) *Biblia Picturis Illustrata* (1540) printed in Paris, woodcuts initialed by Johannes Frank, distinctive style of Holbein
11. (12) *De Aquitilibus* (1555) written by Gessner and printed at Zurich. Leaf from the volume on birds and fish
12. (13) *Historia de Gentibus Septentrionalibus* (1555) famous work on Scandinavia, printed in Rome
13. (14) *Munster's Cosmographia Universalis* (1559) printed in Basle, the magnum opus of the noted German geographer and lexicographer.
14. (15) Ovid's *Metamorphoses* (1565) printed by Joan Gryphius in Venice
15. (17) A Miniature Engraving (no date) early Elzevir printing
16. (18) *Gerard's Herball* (1633) the doctor's book of the 17th century, printed by T. Johnson in London
17. (19) *A Display of Heraldrie* (1638) written by John Guillim, printed in London
18. (22) *Ethic Political of Julii* (1666) by Zinegreff, illustrated book of emblems printed in French and German by Clementem Ammoniu in Heidelberg
19. (23) *The Iconologia of Cesare Ripa of Perugia* (1669) general work on nature, printed by Niccolo Pezzana in Venice
20. (24) *Virorum Illustrium* (1674) printed in Prague, engraving by de Groos of portraits of monks and nuns of the Augustinian order
21. (25) *Medalische Historie der Republyk van Holland* (1690) written by Bizot and printed in Amsterdam
22. (26) *La Sicilia di Filippo Paruta* (1697) a compilation of Sicilian medals, printed by Marco Maier in Lyons
23. (27) John Dryden's Translation of *Virgil* (1697) published by Jacob Tonson in London. John Dryden (1631-1700)
24. (28) *Floral Laudinesis* (circa 1770) first edition written by William Curtis with painted botanical studies
25. (29) Stipple Engraving (1788-1789) printed in London from the publisher C. Taylor, who did many of his own engravings.
26. (30) *The Fables of Aesop* (1823) with "designs on wood" by Thomas Bewick, printed in Newcastle
27. (31) *Icones Veteris Testamenti* or *Illustrations of the Old Testament* (1830) designs by Holbein, printed by Charles Whittingham in London
28. (32) *The Book of Gems* (1837) paintings by early Victorian artists, printed in London
29. (33) Natural History Lithograph (1842) color lithographs published by the State of New York, work covers agriculture indigenous to New York
30. (34) Steel Engravings (1859) printed in London, Gallery of English and American Poets
31. (36) Rackham Illustration (1909) from *Tales from Shakespeare* written by Charles and Mary Lamb
32. (37) *Fasciliculus Mirre* (1550) incunabula with woodcuts by Bollaert
33. (38) Scheuchzer Bible (1731) copper engraving from the folio bible
34. (39) *Portraits et vies des Hommes Illustres* (1584) written by Andre Thevet, published in Parit with copper engravings by Flemish artists

Folio 3 – Set 5: Famous Presses; and Set 6: Religions of the World
Set 5: Famous Presses

1. (1) *A Digest of Civil Law* (1491) written by Andrea Torresano of Asolo, printed in Venice, an example of early Venetian printing, rubricated Gothic typeset
2. (4) *The Imitation of Christ* (1494) written by Thomas a Kempis, very rare, printed at Nuremberg
3. (5) *Infortiatum de Tortis* (1495) law book printed by Baptista de Tortis in Venice, leaf from Aldus' rival
4. (6) *Arbor Scientiae* (1505) written by Raimond Lull, Catalanian mystic, printed by Peter Posa in Barcelona
5. (7) *The Cornucopia of Nicholas Perottus* (1513) commentary on the epigrams of Martial. Printed by the Aldine Press in Venice
6. (8) *The Saturnalia of Macrobius* (1513) a 4th century work printed by the Giunta Press in Venice
7. (9) *The Chronicon of Sigbert of Gembloux* (1513) first edition from the Henry Estienne Press in Venice
8. (10) *Nova Legenda Angliae* (1516) printed at Flete Street in London by the famous press of Wynkyn de Worde
9. (12) *Postilles Majores* (1525) from the press of Balli in Lyones. A devotional book with woodcut initials
10. (13) *Works of Josephus* (1554) printed by Jerome Froben in Basle
11. (16) A Miniature Elzevir (1626) printed by Elzevir in Leyden, volume about France in the Republic Series
12. (20) *Anacreon, Bion, and Moschus* (1791) printed by Bodonius in Parma, named for the Greek poet Anacreon
13. (21) *Marmion* (1808) first edition written by Sir Walter Scott, printed by J. Ballantyne in Edinburgh
14. (24) French Missal (1858) published in Paris by the press of J. Claye, woodcut borders
15. (26) Bruce Rogers Folio (1937) leaf from the press of American's finest printer, typographer, and designer in New York

Folio 3 (continued)

Set 6: Religions of the World

1. Dutch Book of Hours (mid-15th century) vellum manuscript leaf
2. (2) *Psalterium Expositio* (1491) commentary on the Psalms, printed at Basle by von Amerbach
3. (5) *Facciliculus Mirre* or *On the life of Christ* (1500) incunabula
4. (8) Breviary (circa 1525) Gothic black and red type
5. (11) *A Book of Services for Christmas* (1570) early example of printed music published by Matthias Gastius in Salamanca
6. (12) *The Liber Sextus of Pope Boniface VIII* (1572) important compendium of ecclesiastical law, published in Venice
7. (14) *The Sermons of John Calvin* (1583) translated from French by A. Golding, and printed by Henry Middleton in London
8. Hieroglyphica (1622) catalogue of the flora and fauna mentioned in the Holy Bible, printed by T. Finlanson in Edinburgh
9. (23) Increase Mather Sermon of 1685, early printing in the Boston colony by the sister of Cotton Mather (1663-1728)
10. (24) *The Works of Clement of Alexandria* (1688) one of the fathers of the early Christian church, Greek and Latin in parallel columns, printed by Schrey and Meyer in Cologne

11. (26) Three Religious Texts (late 1700s) American, representative leaves from the work of the Associate-Reformed Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Protestant Episcopal Church

Folio 4 – Set 7: Writing over the Ages

1. (1) Babylonian Clay Cuneiform Tablet (circa 2400-2000 BC), the earliest form of writing using Cuneiform (wedge-shaped) text in Sumerian language, believed to be from the Third Dynasty of Ur as known as the Neo-Sumerian Empire or the UR III Empire, possibly 2112-2004 BC (stored separately from folio)
2. (2) Egyptian Papyrus (1000 BC), portion of the scroll “Book of the Dead,” text inscribed with fine hieroglyphics of rituals for the soul of Pharaoh
3. (3) Arabic Papyrus Manuscript (600-700 AD), most interesting leaf in fine large text of an early Arabic literary work
4. (5) German Manuscript (15th century), on vellum in fine German handwriting, a religious work in script that died out with the advent of printing
5. (6) *Los Virtuosos Varones que de Nobles* (circa 1450), Portuguese paper manuscript on the nobility of the aristocracy
6. (12) *Gemma Vocabulorum* (1495), Latin-Dutch vocabulary printed in 1495
7. (18) *The Commentaries on Boetius* (1512), Roman philosopher and statesman in the time of Theodoric, from the Milan press of Zanotus de Castelliono
8. (24) *The Commentaries of Bartolus de Saxoferrato* (1521), published in Lyons, transitional Gothic type, and woodcut initials
9. (25) Printed Book of Hours (1525), vellum with woodcut border.
10. (27) *The Twelve Books of the Orations of Quintilian* (1527), bold running-titles in letter de forme, large Roman text
11. (28) Theological Treatise (1527), printed in Lyons by Moylin, this was a best seller of its day
12. (29) *Dante’s Divine Comedy* (1529), printed by the Giunta Press in Venice
13. (30) *Polybius: His complete history* (1530), printed by Johannem Secerium at Hagenau. Polybuis’ own work, Greek printing
14. (32) Koran Manuscript (16th century), Arabic manuscript written with a reed on glazed paper in the style of Nashki Chirography
15. (40) *Work of Euclid* by Nicholas Tartalea (1565), most brilliant mathematician before Galileo. Period textbook printed in Venice
16. (41) Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* (1565) printed by Joan Gryphius in Venice, example from the period of decline in Venetian printing
17. (44) *Commentariorum in Ordinationes Regias Castellae* (1574) Spanish law book from Castile, printed at Salamanca in Spanish type
18. (45) *A Catholike and Ecclesiasticall Exposition or A Catholic and Ecclesiastical Exposition* (1574) written by Thomas Tymme and printed in London
19. (50) *Estatutos Generales de Barcelona* (1585) religious book printed in Mexico by Predo Ocharte, early American imprint
20. (52) *Justinian Code* (1602) printed by Paris by Vignonian, St. Gervais
21. (55) *A Guide to Tongues* (1617) written by John Minsheu, 1st Comparative Linguistic Dictionary from England. Printed by John Browne of London
22. (56) Irish Law Book (1621) printed in Dublin, page is from the statutes of Ireland from Edward II to James I.

23. (62) Manuscript in the handwriting of Lorenzo Lippi (1606-1665), an epic poem in racy Tuscan, clear ornate penmanship
24. (63) *De Indiae Utriusque* (1658) written by Piso and printed by the Elshvers at their Amsterdam press. Illustrated work on the natural history of the Indies
25. (67) *Numismatum Antiquorum* (1671) illustrated work written by Daniel Elsevir, printed in Amsterdam.
26. (71) Scottish Law Book (1686) written by Sir George Mackenzie, printed in Edinburgh
27. (73) *Parliamentary Acts of the Reign of William III* (1695) printed in London, using the type and text of Caxton's time
28. (75) *Constitutiones de Jurejurando* (1706) written by Mosis Maimonides, Jewish philosopher, Hebrew text paralleled with Latin
29. (77) *Tables of Logarithms* (1742) written by William Gardiner, printed in London
30. (78) Latin Manuscript (1744 and 1745) written in Guatemala
31. (85) Greek Miniature (1810) published by N. Bliss at Oxford, Greek type of Homer's *Iliad*
32. (91) *Goudy's Ladies Book* (19th century) American fashion
33. (94) Burmese Palm Book, The Great Paritta, written in the Burmese year 1237 (1875), manuscript written on strip-of-palm pages (3 examples of vertical palm pages)

Items stored separately from folios (2 items)

1. Babylonian Clay Cuneiform Tablet (circa 2112-2004 BC), the earliest form of writing using Cuneiform (wedge-shaped) text in Sumerian language, believed to be from the Third Dynasty of Ur as known as the Neo-Sumerian Empire or the UR III Empire, 2112-2004 BC. This tablet came from Babylonian excavations, and it was purchased in Amuda, Syria (Folio 4 Set 7)
2. Babylonian Cylinder Seal (circa 1700 BC), with Sumerian inscriptions, excavated at Amlash, Mesopotamia. This small opaque white quartz seal was the signature of a Babylonian and were used across clay tablet documents, the seal depicts a man and an animal (not listed in the original folio inventory, but it was purchased by the IUP Libraries at the same time)
3. Reproductions of ancient Byzantine, Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Roman, coins (stored in the front of Folio 1)

