

4to (250 by 195mm). First edition, first issue, five parts in one volume, engraved frontispiece depicting the sun and the four winds above a harbour scene, 2 folding engraved charts, engraved illustrations of instruments and vessels, woodcut head-pieces, illustrations, diagrams and initials, occasional neat manuscript corrections in the text, scattered light spotting, a few gatherings slightly browned, unobtrusive light marginal staining on some gatherings, gathering P () duplicated, contemporary red morocco elaborately gilt by the “Queen’s Binder D”, covers with gilt strawberry-roll border enclosing an over-all design of drawer-handles, suns, dots, tulips, four-petalled flowers and other floral designs, the spines gilt in six compartments, with central four-petalled flower and scroll corner tools in each panel, inner dentelles, gilt edges, slight damage to one drawer-handle tool on upper cover, joints strengthened, bookplate of William Constable to front paste-down.

SCARCE FIRST EDITION OF THIS INSTRUCTIVE WORK ON NAVIGATION

The Whole Art of Navigation; in Five Books. Containing I. The principles of navigation and geometry. II. The principles of astronomy. III. The practical part of navigation. IV. The description and use of such instruments, as are useful in taking observations at sea.. V. Useful tables in navigation, wherein those of the suns and stars declination and right ascension, &c. are newly calculated

Author
NEWHOUSE, Daniel

Publication date
1685

Publisher
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Publication place

London,

Physical description
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Dimensions

Notes
Scarce first edition of this instructive work on navigation.

A pencil note on the front free endpaper suggests that the present example is the dedication copy to James II. Whilst the elaborate binding would appear to support this theory, another, different, example of the work in broadly the same design is recorded in Nixon, “English Restoration Bookbindings”, No. 75, as bound by the “Queen’s Binder D”. This book is in the holdings of the British Library. It would, perhaps, therefore, be more likely that the present work was gifted by James II, as opposed to being his personal copy.

William Constable (1721-1791) was a Yorkshire antiquarian and gentleman collector.

The present book is the only complete example of this work we have been able to trace as having been sold in the UK or US in the past 60 years. During this time it has sold twice, both times at Sotheby’s, where it made £12,600 in 1999 and £72 in 1959.

Bibliography
Adams and Waters 2665; Taylor I 443; Wing N920

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 1290

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