

SA923238

2 complete sets of books on
British Theatre comprising 40
volumes dated 1797 & 1806

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA923238

Date of manufacture: Georgian

Dimensions

Height = 14.7 cm (5.8")

Width = 110 cm (43.3")

Depth = 9.5 cm (3.7")

Description

John Bell's (1745-1831) British Theatre consisting of the most esteemed of English plays was first published in 1776-1778 in 20 volumes and comprised 140 plays. George Cawthorn acquired the rights to this work following a lawsuit in 1795-1796 and subsequently published this 34 volume set, still containing 140 plays, in 1797. The very similarly bound 1st edition 6 volume companion set Cawthorn's Minor British Theatre, comprising of the most esteemed farces and operas, contains 30 works and was published by George's son, John Cawthorn in 1806. All 40 volumes are very similarly bound in attractive contemporary full tree calf bindings with gilt decorated boards, spines and title labels. The end papers and page edges are marbled. Each volume of Bell's contains either 4 or 5 works and each work has a full-page plate representing a scene from the play and a frontispiece of an actor in a leading part although some are untitled. Most of the plays are preceded by biographical sketches of the authors, criticism of the play, etc. and dramatis personae, giving the names of the players and the parts they played. Cawthorn's set also have a frontispiece of an actor but no other ...

Internal Ref: 3536

Seller Details

Donnelly Antiques Ltd

Colchester Essex United Kingdom



Tel: 07918 468939

International Tel: +44 7918 468939