
FIRST EDITION IN FRENCH. Two volumes, 12mo, pp. lviii, 431, [1] blank; [iv], 418; clean fresh copies throughout; contemporary sprinkled calf, spines in five compartments divided by raised bands four decorated in gilt and two with red labels lettered in gilt.

First French edition of Hume’s Political Discourses in the translation by Le Blanc. The Political Discourses, first published in English in 1752, were the first of any of Hume’s works to be translated into French. In 1754, the same year as this edition, a translation by Eleazar de Mauvillon was published with the same title. Le Blanc, in his letter to Hume, gives an unfavourable and probably unjust account of this translation, and Hume never established contact with Mauvillon, instead exchanging numerous letters with Le Blanc and arranging for him to translate other works of his (Greig, 91). Metz even suggests that through this translation Kant first heard of
Hume (Jessop, p. 25). This translation certainly was a commercial success, since it had to be reprinted the following year.

‘This, [Hume] says, was the only work of his which succeeded upon its first publication. It attracted notice abroad as well as at home, … and Hume became an authority in France, where the rising school of economists was stimulated by his clear and original expositions’ (DNB).

This edition contains besides all twelve discourses, which constitute Hume’s most important contributions to political economy, Bolingbroke’s Present State of the Nation and an interesting survey of contemporary English books on economics (including Law, Davenant, Thomas Mun among others). Also added is a bibliography of works cited by Hume in his Political Discourses and recently translated and published in French.


2 [HUME, David]. EXPOSE SUCCINT DE LA CONTESTATION qui s’est élevée entre M. Hume et M. Rousseau, avec les pièces justificatives. A Londres. 1766.

[bound after:] [GUYON, Claude-Marie, l’abbé]. L’ORACLE DES NOUVEAUX PHILOSOPHES; pour servir de suite et d’éclaircissement aux œuvres de M. de Voltaire … A Berne. 1759. £ 485

FIRST EDITIONS. Two works in one volume, 12mo, pp. xx, 388; xiv, 127, [1] blank; apart from very minor browning to paper in places, a nice clean copy throughout; attractively bound in contemporary green vellum, spine with ms. label (a little rubbed), hinges split at foot but holding firm, light surface wear; a very desirable copy.

The scarce first edition, first issue (without press figures, printed in Paris) of Hume’s own account of the bitter controversy with Rousseau. The Exposé Succint consists of the correspondence between Hume and Rousseau, with link passages of narrative written by Hume. The translator was J.B.A. Suard, who acted under the supervision of d’Alembert, and met with Hume’s approval. There were two Londres editions in 1766, the present being the genuine first edition, printed in Paris without press figures, the second (Chuo 78) being a genuine London imprint. An English translation was published in the same year, under Hume’s direction.

‘Rousseau had maligned [Hume] so deeply, and the city gossips had filled out the tale so apocryphally, that Hume was stung into adopting this method of clearing himself. His friends, both English and French, at first advised against publication, but soon d’Alembert and his circle changed their minds and urged it’ (Jessop p. 37). Also bound with this work is the l’abbé Claude-Marie Guyon’s work attacking several of Voltaire’s works. The Dictionnaire Universelle Histoire of Chaudon and Delandine says of the work: ‘la fiction qui sert de cadre a ce livre est maladroite et odieuse … le style pesant, les plaisanteries lourdes; mais il y a de la force dans les refutations, et en rassemblant les principes epars de Voltaire, il le met souvent en contradiction avec lui-meme. Ce dernier opposa a l’abbé Guyon, pour toute réponse, des injures, auxquelles celui-ci fut d’autant moins sensible que son livre eut le plus grand succes’. Nevertheless, it still provides an interesting selection of confutation’s to Voltaire’s works, despite Guyon’s many contradictions! A second part to this work was published in 1760.

I. OCLC: 2769396, recording just one copy in the UK, at the Taylor Institute, with six copies recorded in American Libraries; II. Chuo 77; Jessop p. 37; see also Guéhenno, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, II, pp. 186-195.

Williams Todd’s Copy


FIRST EDITIONS, APART FROM VOL. V (SECOND EDITION, CORRECTED). Six volumes, 4to, pp. viii, 424; viii, 446, [1] errata; viii, 402; iv, [403]-739, [1] advertisement; vi, 473, [1] advertisements; [ii], v, [i] blank, 459, [1] advertisements; worming affecting the foot of the first gathering of vol. I (with loss of some letters but not affecting entire words) and B₁, single worm hole running throughout the rest of the volume but not touching any letters, otherwise apart from very minor marking and light foxing in places, remarkably clean and crisp throughout; in contemporary uniform sprinkled calf, spines tooled in gilt with contrasting red and green morocco labels lettered in gilt, spines darkened, joints of vols I & II cracked (but cords holding firm) and chipping to head and tails (particularly to head of vol. I), upper board of vol. VI detached, some rubbing to extremities of other volumes, but still an appealing set from the library of Hume bibliographer William B. Todd with his pencil notes loosely inserted in vol. I.

An appealing copy of Hume's great History bound in a contemporary uniform binding, from the library of the Hume scholar and bibliographer William Todd.

Hume wrote the volumes which were to become volume V and VI first: these were published in 1754 and 1757. The 1754 volume, entitled The History of Great Britain (as was its successor), was published in Edinburgh and the remainder stock taken over by Millar in London in 1756. Millar then published the second volume in 1757. The volumes which were to become III and IV were published by Millar in 1759 as The History of England under the House of Tudor; and the history was completed with volumes I and II (covering the invasion of Julius Caesar up to the accession of Henry VII) in 1762.

Although there is no evidence of Todd's ownership signature in any of the volumes the bookseller from whom we purchased the set has provided a written authenticity note to confirm that he purchased the book as part of William Todd's library. Furthermore, loosely inserted in volume I is a pencil transcript of a Hume letter made at the Pforzheimer in 1974 which bears a very close resemblance to Todd's hand.

Jessop, pp. 27-30; Todd, pp. 196-199; Chuo 47.

4  HUME, David. HISTOIRE DE LA MAISON DE STUART, sur le Trône d'Angleterre … Tome Premier [-Tome Sixieme.] A Londres. 1763.

[w ith:] HISTOIRE DE LA MAISON DE TUDOR, sur le Trône d'Angleterre … Traduit de l'Anglois par Madame B***. Tome I. [-Tome VI] … A Amsterdam, 1763.

[w ith:] HISTOIRE DE LA MAISON DE PLANTAGENET, sur le Trone d'Angleterre, depuis l'invasion de Julius César, jusqu'à l'avenement de Henry VII … Traduite de l'Anglois par Madame B*** … Tome Premier [-Tome Sixieme] … A Amsterdam, 1765. 1763. £ 2,250

FIRST DUODECIMO EDITION IN FRENCH. 18 volumes, 12mo; apart from some minor foxing in places, a clean fresh copy throughout; attractively bound in contemporary uniform French mottled calf, spines decoratively gilt with floral motifs (differing slightly on the final work), spines with contrasting red and green morocco label lettered in gilt (some green labels sunned); light wear to extremities, otherwise a handsome and highly desirable set.

A very attractive set of the first duodecimo edition in French of the Hume’s great History of Great Britain, from the beginning down to the Revolution of 1688. ‘Hume’s History was the first attempt at a comprehensive treatment of historic facts, the first to introduce the social and literary aspects of a nation’s life as only second in importance to its political fortunes, and the first historical writing in an animated yet refined and polished style’ (Enc. Brit.).

Hume began writing his History of Great Britain with the Stuarts and only later turned to the Tudors, to be followed by the Plantagenets, therefore the volumes were not published in chronological order of the periods handled. This was also borne out in the publication order of the French edition. The Stuarts were translated by A.-F. Prévost, ‘that famous novelist and Anglophile’ (Mossner, p. 423), and first published in quarto in 1760. The History of England, under the House of Tudor, was translated by Octavie Guichard, Mme Belot, later wife of President du Rey de Meynières, and published simultaneously in quarto in duodecimo in 1763. In 1765 she also translated the Histoire de la maison de Plantagenet, again simultaneous in quarto and duodecimo. ‘In her preface the translator states that her manuscript had been read by Hume, and that the version was to have appeared under the patronage of Mme de Pompadour, who had died in 1764’ (Jessop. p. 32). She also published the
anonymous *Reflexions d’une Provinciale* (1756) in reply to Rousseau’s second *Discours*, a translation of Johnson’s *Rasselas* (1760), and the novel *Ophélie* (1763).

Jessop p. 32; not in Chuo.

5  **HUME, David.** *WYSGERIGE EN STAATKUNDIGE VERHANDELINGEN* van den Heere David Hume. Uit het Engelsch vertaald … Te Amsterdam, by Kornelis van Tongerlo. 1764.  £ 2,500

**FIRST DUTCH TRANSLATION.** 8vo, pp. xii, 436; apart from a few minor marks, and some light dust-soiling in places, a clean copy throughout; in contemporary half calf, spine ruled in gilt with label lettered in gilt, boards rather worn with significant loss of paper to upper board, lower joint cracked, but holding, calf missing from upper corners, nevertheless, still an appealing copy of this rare translation.

Rare first Dutch translation of the *Political Discourses*, and apparently the first appearance of any work by Hume in Dutch. A translation of the *History of England* appeared 1769-74, but these seem to be the only translations in the eighteenth century.

Hume’s fundamental contribution to the history of political economy is contained in the essays collected in his *Political Discourses*. They had such influence generally, and in particular on Adam Smith, that they are indispensable for an understanding of the development of economic theory in the eighteenth century. Hume was convinced that political freedom was an outcome of economic freedom - a contribution that was cited on numerous occasions by Adam Smith.

‘The Age of Enlightenment found Hume’s economic and political observations subtle but discerning. As usual, his thought was seminal and provoked much appreciation. In short, after 1752 David Hume was read by a wider circle than could ever possibly have read his metaphysical works’ (Mossner).

We have been unable to identify the translator of this Dutch edition, which contains all twelve discourses. A reissue, with a cancelled title, followed on two years later in Rotterdam under a different publisher, but with identical collation. Evidently, despite Hume’s increasingly popularity on the continent, both issues met with little success, as few copies now survive of either.

OCLC records just one copy outside of the Netherlands, at the National Library of Scotland; not in Jessop, Chuo, or Fieser.

6  **HUME, David.** *PENSÉES PHILOSOPHIQUES*, morales, critiques, litteraires et politiques … A Londres, et se trouve a Paris, chez la Veuve Duchesne, Libraire, rue St. Jacques, au Temple du Gout. 1767.  £ 550

**FIRST EDITION THUS.** 12mo, engraved frontispiece portrait, pp. [iv], xii, 416; minor stain just visible to foot of frontispiece, otherwise apart from a few light marks in places, a clean crisp copy throughout; uncut and stitched as issued in the publisher’s original marbled wraps, with paper label titled in ink on spine, wraps rather sunned and rubbed, nevertheless, a very appealing copy, rarely found in such original state.

According to the preface, this scarce collection of extracts from Hume’s philosophical and moral essays was put together expressly to equip the French public with an introduction to Hume’s philosophy in the aftermath of the famous quarrel between Rousseau and Hume.

This volume contains nearly fifty extracts from Hume’s works translated by J.A.J. de Boulmiers, and contains his views on the freedom of the press, liberty and despotism, fanaticism, inequality, political society, human dignity, justice, polygamy and divorce among others.

Jessop p. 10; ESTC records copies at Harvard, McGill, Chicago, Toronto and the Lilly Library in North America, with OCLC adding further copies at UCLA, Yale, Indiana, Princeton, Cornell and Maryland.

7  **[HUME]. DENINA, Carlo.** *AN ESSAY ON THE REVOLUTIONS OF LITERATURE.* Translated from the Italian of Sig. Carlo Denina … by John Murdoch … London: printed for T. Cadell … J. Robson … G. Woodfall … and T. Evans … [1771].  £ 350

Scottish literature greatly superior
FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRANSLATION. 12mo, pp. [iv], viii, 299, [1] advertisement; a fine copy in contemporary calf, spine with morocco labels, including label at foot with two early crests.

First English translation of this comprehensive survey of trends in European literature, by the Turin professor Carlo Denina (1731-1813), here translated by John Murdoch (1747-1824), Robert Burn’s teacher at Ayr.

Denina was born in Revello, and became professor of humanities at the college in Pinerolo in 1753, before moving first to Milan and then, in 1758, to Turin. In 1761, he published his Discorso sopra le vicende della letteratura, of which the present volume is a translation, followed in 1762 by a Saggio sopra la letteratura italiana. In 1769, he brought out a periodical, entitled Il Parlamento ottaviano, but this only lasted twelve issues, after attracting the attention of Vatican censors. In the same year, the first volume of his principal work, Delle rivoluzioni d’Italia, appeared; the second and third volumes followed a year later.

The present work offers a survey of European literature from Homer up to the present, seeking to explain its development, and “point out … the principles and reasons which made the spirit of letters flourish or decay” (p. 5). Of particular interest is the eleventh chapter, on Scottish literature, which Denina claims to be greatly superior, in the middle of the eighteenth century, to its English counterpart: “Good writers are by no means so numerous in England now as they were thirty years ago. But this deficiency is amply compensated by the illustrious authors who have since sprung up in Scotland. The Scots and English form one people, write one language, and by these means foreigners are not so sensible of the decline of genius and literature on this side of the Tweed” (pp. 273-4). Denina writes especially approvingly of Hume and Robertson, noting that the principal achievements of Scottish authors lie not in poetry but in historical writing.

OCLC: 648853.

8 HUME, David. DIALOGUES CONCERNING NATURAL RELIGION … London: 1779. £ 650

SECOND EDITION. 8vo, pp. 264, minor stain at margin from pp. 73-154 (not affecting the text) and a few light marks to final gathering, otherwise a clean fresh copy throughout; uncut in contemporary Dutch floral wraps, some rubbing and general wear, head of spine lightly chipped and with short split to joint, but not detracting from this being a highly desirable copy, rarely found in such original condition.

First published the same year, this is Hume’s most important posthumous publication. He had been engaged on the work for many years, the first mention of the dialogues being in 1751; pressure from friends prevented their publication during his lifetime. In his will he left Adam Smith the job of overseeing their publication, but in a codicil he altered this to his publisher, Strahan. The task was probably finally executed by his nephew David.

Jessop pp. 40-41.


FIRST EDITION IN GERMAN. Two volumes bound in one, 8vo, pp. [viii], 843, [1] errata; [iv], 314; a very good copy in contemporary half calf, corners worn, spine labels lettered gilt, a few cracks.

Scarce first edition in German of the first two books, ‘Of the Understanding’ and ‘Of the Passions’, which make up A Treatise of Human Nature the first translation into any language of Hume’s greatest (and rarest) work; it is issued here with a commentary by Ludwig Heinrich von Jakob (1759–1827), a professor of philosophy at Halle who helped greatly to popularize Hume’s work in Germany.

Although the translation seems late – fifty years after the work’s initial publication in 1739–40 – it is, in fact, the only other edition of the Treatise to appear in the eighteenth century. A ‘new edition’ in English was not published until 1817, and French readers had to wait until 1878 for a translation; Spanish and Italian versions first appeared only in the twentieth century.

Hume’s reputation among the German philosophers throughout the nineteenth century is well known, but this translation reminds us of the importance eighteenth-century German thinkers placed on Hume’s writings. In fact, Hume had begun to establish a reputation for himself in Germany during his lifetime: a set of collected
works had already appeared in German in 1754–6, the Four Dissertations in 1755, and Windheim’s Göttingische philosophische Bibliothek (1749–57) had been providing German readers with reviews of Hume’s (and other authors’) works almost as soon as they appeared in English.


Adickes 364; Jessop, p. 14; not in Chuo; see PMM 194.

10 **HUME, David.** SMARRE AFHANDLINGAR I ALLMANNA HUSHALLNINGEN, af David Hume, Esquire. Öfversatting ifran sista Engelska Uplagan af Ar 1772. I. Samlingen [all published]. Stockholm, Tryckt hos Johan A. Carlbohm, 1791. £ 1,850

**FIRST EDITION IN SWEDISH.** 8vo, pp. [iv], 187, [1]; some marking and light foxing in places, but generally clean throughout; with neat contemporary ownership signature on title; uncut in modern half cloth over mottled boards, spine lettered in gilt.

Very rare first Swedish translation of Hume’s *Political Discourses* containing nine of the original twelve discourses.

See item 4.

OCLC records four copies, at McGill, Harvard, National Library of Scotland and the National Library of Sweden; not recorded in Jessop or Chuo.

A ‘remarkable history of human thought’


**FIRST EDITION.** 8vo, pp. 290, [2] index, [1] errata, [3] blank; occasional foxing throughout (mainly light but stronger in places) due to paper quality, half-title with library label on verso; in recent boards, with the original front printed wrapper laid down and bound in.

Rare first edition of this ‘remarkable history of human thought’ (*Encyclopedia of Philosophy*) by the Italian philosopher Pasquale Galluppi (1770-1846).

In the course of twelve letters, Galluppi charts the most important developments in philosophy (and particularly in epistemology) from Descartes to Kant. He examines in turn the direction in which philosophy was lead by Condillac, Locke, Descartes and d’Alembert, Leibniz’s criticisms of Locke, Kant’s adoption of Leibniz’s concept of necessary knowledge, the ways in which Kant construed visible nature (the world of phenomena), and the new problems brought to philosophy by Hume, comparing Hume’s doctrines with those of his predecessors, including Malebranche, Bayle and Berkeley. Galluppi goes on to examine the ways in which Reid and his followers attacked Humean scepticism, and the influence of both Scottish schools on Kant’s transcendental idealism, before concluding with an analysis of Kant’s theories on the possibility of metaphysics, and his dialectic. One of Galluppi’s most important works, the Lettere have gone through many editions, being reprinted into the latter years of the last century.

Pasquale Galluppi was initially much influenced by Wolff, before studying Kant in depth between 1807 and 1815. However, he was not convinced that Kant’s idealism ultimately amounted to anything more than scepticism, and arrived at a position not far removed from that of the Scottish common-sense school. He became professor of philosophy at the University of Naples in 1831.

Jessop p. 69; OCLC records just three copies in North America, at Yale, Harvard, McGill and the University of Connecticut.

**FIRST EDITION.** 8vo, pp. xii, 540; small ink mark to bottom corner of title, otherwise apart from light browning in places, a clean fresh copy throughout; uncut and entirely unopened in the original publisher’s wraps, with title stamped on upper wrapper, slightly browned, but otherwise a fine copy.

First edition of one of the most important German books on Hume’s philosophy, by Edmund Pfleiderer (1842-1902).

Pfleiderer, who was at the time of writing Professor of Philosophy at Kiel, is well known as the author of several works dealing variously with ancient philosophy (he was especially interested in Heraclitus), enlightenment English-language philosophy and Leibniz, as well as for his survey of the pessimistic movement that was prevalent in certain circles. In the present work, he turns his attention to Hume, presenting a comprehensive account of the Scotsman’s thought, both in the field of theoretical philosophy (metaphysics, if we can call it that) and in the areas of moral philosophy and religion. Pfleiderer seeks to demonstrate both the ways in which Hume was the heir to his predecessors (in particular Locke) and those in which he influenced later philosophers, explaining Hume’s philosophy in terms of its scepticism and thoroughgoing empiricism.

Jessop, p. 61; OCLC: 8687114.


**FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRANSLATION.** Two volumes, 8vo, pp. viii, 380; vi, 397, [3] advertisements; ownership stamps to verso of title of first part, otherwise clean copies throughout; First part bound in near contemporary grey cloth, spine lettered in gilt, with library labels at foot, some minor rubbing to extremities, but still a very good copy, parts II & III bound in modern grey cloth to match, spine lettered in gilt, vol. II slightly larger than vol. I; a very good copy.

An uncommon translation into German of Hume’s greatest work, his Treatise on Human Nature.

‘In the Treatise … we have the first attempt to apply Locke’s empirical psychology to build a theory of knowledge, and from it to provide a critique of metaphysical ideas … Though universally hailed at the time the full importance of his conclusions was hardly appreciated until Bentham realized Hume’s utilitarianism and Mill his logic’ (PMM 194). Hume stressed the dependence of natural philosophy, natural religion, mathematics, logic criticism, politics and morals upon the science of the mind, such a conception of the cognitive structure of the sciences was highly influential within the Scottish universities during the Enlightenment.

The translator Theodor Lipps (1851-1914), German psychologist, is best known for his theory of aesthetics, particularly the concept of Einfühlung, or empathy, which he described as the act of projecting oneself into the object of a perception.

Jessop p. 15; not in Chuo; NUC records two copies only, at Harvard and Cornell University (with the 1906 volumes), with OCLC: 2343656 citing two further copies at McGill and Indiana.


**FIRST EDITION.** 8vo, pp. xvi, [iii], 206; very lightly foxed in places, but generally clean throughout; uncut and partially unopened in the original printed wraps, stitched as issued, spine a little worn, otherwise a very good copy.
A good copy of this dissertation on Hume’s epistemology and ethics, the first work of the eminent Dutch philosopher Arthur Joseph de Sopper (1875-1960).

Presented to the University of Leiden in 1907, de Sopper’s work works from the premises that empiricism is either a truism or a mistake. He argues that Berkeley provides not only the historical but also the logical link between Locke and Hume, as part of a continuous thread that started with Bacon, and puts forth a detailed exposition of the empiricist school of epistemology, focusing on the consequences of Locké’s denial of innate ideas but also dealing not only with Bacon and Berkeley but also Hobbes, as well as the school’s points of departure with the rationalism of, in particular, Leibniz. Throughout the work, however, the exposition is concerned with the impact that these philosophers had on Hume, and on the importance of epistemological empiricism on ethical thought.

The neokantian philosopher De Sopper is best known for his 1950 work *Wat is philosophie?*, which became one of the standard Dutch introductions to the subject. Other works include a study of contemporary Hegelianism, *Hegel en onze tijd*, which appeared the year after the present work.

OCLC: 8545124.


FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. viii, 147, with portrait frontispiece; evenly a little browned, frontispiece lightly foxed in the margins; otherwise well-preserved in the original publisher’s grey half-cloth over marbled boards, light wear to extremities.

First edition of this uncommon study of Hume’s life and work by the Dutch philosopher and critic Cornelis Johannes Wijnaendts Francken (1863-1944).

After a brief biographical sketch, the author discusses in turn Hume’s empiricism, his psychology, his thoughts on causation and determinism, his moral philosophy, and his philosophy of religion, drawing on thinkers both of Hume’s period and earlier, and on later writers such as Darwin.

Wijnaendts Francken (1863-1944) had a pronounced interest in philosophy, and wrote several books with subjects as diverse as Buddha, Schopenhauer, Benjamin Franklin, or the sociology of suicide.

OCLC locates five copies in America, at Arizona State University, Berkeley, University of Chicago, Harvard and Bryn Mawr.


FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRANSLATION. 8vo, pp. iv, [ii], 101, [1] blank; uncut in the original printed publisher’s wrapper, lightly dust-soiled, 1 inch at head of spine missing, nevertheless, still a very good copy.

Uncommon German translation of *The Natural History of Religion* from *Four Dissertations*, translated with an introduction by Wilhelm Bolin.

Bolin (1835-1924) was professor of philosophy at Helsinki, and was a correspondent and collaborator with many of the most important philosophers of the late nineteenth century, including Feuerbach and Heyse. He published works on Spinoza, the role of philosophy in european politics, and the freedom of the will, from a steadfastly determinist standpoint.

Jessop p. 36; only two copies recorded by OCLC outside continental Europe, at the National Library of Scotland and McGill.


FIRST ITALIAN TRANSLATION OF PRINCIPLES OF MORALS; FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRANSLATION OF PHILOSOPHICAL ESSAYS. 8vo, pp. xvii, [1] blank, 318, vi; apart from a few minor marks in places, a clean throughout; uncut in the original printed wraps, lightly dust-soiled, but still a very good copy.
Uncommon Italian translations of Hume’s *Philosophical Essays concerning Human Understanding* and perhaps more importantly his *Enquiry concerning the Principles of Morals*, which, as far as we are aware, is the first Italian edition.

*Philosophical Essays concerning Human Understanding* is one of Hume’s rarest works, the title of which was later changed to *Enquiry concerning Human Understanding*. Hume had intended it to replace Book I of the *Treatise*, in an attempt to convey its central ideas in a more elegant form and to reach a wider audience. Against the advice of Henry Home, he decided to include the earlier Essay on *Miracles*, which he had considered publishing in the *Treatise* in an earlier form but which he had withheld from fear of giving offence. This time he declared his ‘indifference about all the consequences that may follow’ (Greig I, p. 111).

The *Enquiry concerning the Principles of Morals* is a condensed and simplified version of his social philosophy, which was designed to replace Book III of the *Treatise on Human Nature*, but was later included in the *Essays and Treatises*. Hume himself considered this his finest work, ‘In my opinion (who ought not to judge on that subject) it is of all my writings, historical, philosophical, or literary, incomparably the best: it came unnoticed and unobserved into the world’ (Hume’s *Autobiography*).

This translator of the present edition is Giuseppe Prezzolini (1882-1982), who at the time of publication was the editor of the review *La Voce*, which he had founded in 1908. He went on to found the Istituto Bibliografico Italiano, and spent many years teaching at Columbia University. Other works include studies of fascism, German mysticism, Italian culture, and a biography of Machiavelli. The *Philosophical Essays concerning Human Understanding* seems to be the second Italian edition, after the translation by G.B. Griggi published in Pavia in 1820. However, the *Principles of Morals* appears to be the first translation in to Italian. Prezzolini’s introduction examines the differences and similarities between the two works, as well as discussing previous editions of both.

Jessop, p. 21 & 23; not in Chuo; OCLC records three copies, at McGill, Harvard and the National Library of Scotland.

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18 **HUME, David.** *DIE NATURGESCHICHTE DER RELIGION … übersetzt und mit einem Abriß über die Geschichte des Deismus in England eingeleitet von Aphons J. Sußnitzki.* Frankfurt a. M. Neuer Frankfurter Verlag, 1911. £ 350

*FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRANSLATION.* 8vo, pp. 125, [3] advertisements; title slightly marked and with small library stamp, lightly and evenly browned throughout (due to paper stock); in contemporary cloth backed mottled boards, spine with blank paper label, lightly rubbed to extremities, but still a very good copy.

First edition of this translation of Hume’s *Natural History of Religion* into German, by the historian Alphons Sußnitzki, best known for his anti-Armenian propaganda.

Sußnitzki’s translation appeared only two years after the first German edition, and is notable for its introductory essay, in which he presents a history of Deism in Britain, contrasting the new philosophical approach with that of scholasticism, noting the old school’s dependence on the Church and its teachings, and tracing the development of a more sceptical philosophy through the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, paying special attention to the rôle of Hobbes and Locke.

OCLC records two copies in North America, at Harvard and McGill.


*DISSERTATION.* 8vo, pp. [iv], 58; lightly and evenly browned throughout, due to paper stock backed in red paper, as issued; a very good copy.

Uncommon dissertation by Elieser Posen, presented to the philosophy faculty at Giessen, on Hume’s treatment of the problem of existence, seen in the light of later treatments of the problem.

After a brief explanation of his thesis, Posen starts by explaining the terminology of the problem, defining the differences between “Existenz”, “Existentialsatz”, “Existenzbegriff” and “Existentialurteil”. He then examines four problems related to existence, including its connection to the idea of physicality, and the grounds on
which we can make judgements about existence, before discussing Hume’s approach to these questions in the light of the criticisms and elucidations of Sigwart, Messer, Dyroff and Husserl.

OCLC: 27669696.

Hume in Spain

20 [HUME, David]. TRATADO DE LA NATURALEZA HUMANA ensayo para introducir el método del razonamiento experimental en los asuntos morales. Tomo I [-III]. Madrid, [Calpe], 1923. £ 400

FIRST EDITION IN SPANISH. Three volumes, 8vo, pp. 424, [8] advertisements; 266, [6] advertisements; 256; lightly browned throughout due to paper stock; in the original printed wraps, lightly rubbed and worn to extremities, minor surface wear, but still a very good copy.

Rare first Spanish translation, by Vincente Viqueira, of A Treatise of Human Nature, Hume’s greatest (and rarest) work.

The Treatise not only represents the greatest achievement of British philosophy in the eighteenth century, but in its clarity is among the finest examples of eighteenth century English prose style. It is the ‘first attempt to apply Locke’s empirical psychology to build a theory of knowledge, and from it to provide a critique of metaphysical ideas’ (PMM). This work contains the basic principles of all Hume’s subsequent philosophical writings and its influence was widespread, both across the channel in Helvetius’ controversial work, and back to the utilitarianism of Bentham and the logic of J. S. Mill. The first two volumes contain the vast metaphysical structure of Hume’s work, whereas the third volume, on morals, contains more detailed observations of human behaviour.

The publishing history of the Treatise and subsequent translations is an interesting one. The first German translation (1790-2) is, in fact, the only other edition of the Treatise to appear in the eighteenth century. A ‘new edition’ in English was not published until 1817, and French readers had to wait until 1878 for a translation; and it was not until the twentieth century that an Italian version appeared, along with the present Spanish edition.

In his lengthy introduction, Viqueira first gives a brief history of Hume and his works and then discusses the merits of his Treatise and the influence it had on Kant and Thomas Reid.

Jessop, p. 15 (unseen); not in Chuo; see PMM 194. OCLC records three copies in North America, at the University of California (San Diego), Oklahoma State and McGill, with four further copies in Mexican (2) and Chilean libraries (2).


An interesting dissertation, presented to the philosophy faculty at Cologne, on the relationship between Hume’s historical writings and the philosophical system he attempted to build.

Wegrich divides the work into two parts. The first sketches Hume’s philosophy, with particular reference to his theories of causation and determinism, while the second examines Hume’s place in enlightenment historiography, before discussing the epistemological problems that affect the writing of history, and the possibility of knowledge of historical events. He then concludes with reflections on the nature of an historical approach to politics, law, nations, culture and philosophy, history itself, and religion.

Jessop, p.51.

FIRST EDITION OF THIS TRANSLATION. 8vo, pp. xlv, [3], 152; lightly browned throughout, due to paper stock; uncut and largely unopened in the original printed wraps, lightly dust-soiled, but still a very good copy.

First edition of this translation by the prolific Italian translator and editor Rosmina Campanini of Hume’s *Enquiry concerning the Principles of Morals.*

Translated from Selvy-Bigge’s edition of 1902, Hume’s text is here augmented by a substantial introduction by Campanini. She gives a brief biographical sketch of Hume and a small bibliography of primary and secondary sources, before discussing the development of anglophone moral philosophy before Hume, through Hobbes and Locke. She then goes on to examine the methodology behind Hume’s moral philosophy, the importance of the ideas of justice, reason, and sentiment, and the necessity of moral value.

In addition to her translation of Hume, Campanini also prepared Italian editions of Berkeley and Carlyle.

Not in Jessop, Chuo or OCLC.

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**FIRST EDITION** THUS. 8vo, pp. xv, [i] blank, [iv], 97, [1] blank, [2]; without the half title; with some minor pencil doodlings to last blank and index, otherwise a clean copy throughout; uncut in the original printed wraps, lightly dust-soiled and some minor chipping to extremities, but still a very good copy.

First edition of this translation of extracts from the first book of Hume’s Treatise, by the prolific translator and philosopher Angelo dell’Oro.

Dell’Oro gives a brief introduction, sketching Hume’s life and providing an overview of his philosophy, both generally and as found in the Treatise. The extracts included are primarily epistemological, dealing with the origins of ideas, knowledge and probability, and scepticism and ancient philosophy.

Dell’Oro, in addition to the present work, also published on the history of statistics, the legacy of the middle ages, and Arthur Eddington.

OCLC records four copies, at Waseda, the Library of Congress, the Center for Research Libraries, and the National Library of Scotland.

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**FIRST CANTORO EDITION.** 8vo, pp. 143, [1]; lightly and evenly browned throughout (due to paper stock); in the original printed publisher’s wraps, upper joint split at head and tail, but holding firm; a very good copy.

Uncommon translation by the Italian philosopher Umberto Cantoro of extracts from Hume’s *Philosophical Essays concerning Human Understanding.*

Cantoro, in addition to works on Pirandello and Kierkegaard, is well known for his *Vocabolario filosofico, con una introduzione allo studio della filosofia* of 1955. See item 17.

Not in Chuo or OCLC.