

LIST NOVEMBER 2015

# ADVENTUROUS LADIES



Seven courageous  
women and their  
amazing travels

CHARLOTTE DU RIETZ RARE BOOKS



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CHARLOTTE DU RIETZ RARE BOOKS

Mobile: +46 704 411 183

Email: [charlotte@durietzrarebooks.com](mailto:charlotte@durietzrarebooks.com)



### *The mysterious lady in the Orient*

LADY HESTER LUCY STANHOPE (1776–1839)

*Lady Hester was born into an aristocratic family. She lost her mother at the age of four and her childhood was volatile and insecure. Eventually she settled with her uncle the prime minister William Pitt (the younger) where she acted his brilliant hostess for some years before his death. However she wanted to seek adventure in the East and in 1810 she left Britain never to return. Lady Hester was looked upon as wildly eccentric as an unmarried woman of her rank to travel abroad at her own. For some years she travelled extensively in Syria and Lebanon and in 1813 she entered into Palmyra as the first white woman. Her expedition to Ashkelon in 1815 has been considered the first modern*

*archaeological excavation of the Holy Land. She made friends with Arabic leaders such as Emir Bashir II and Mustafa Barbar Agha. She organized the Druze's revolt against the Egyptian forces led by Ibrahim Pasha during the occupation of Syria. Lady Hester came to settle down in an old monastery Dar Djoun in the foothills of Mount Lebanon where she lived for many years until her death. At first as a holy friend and soothsayer, but then, as her behaviour grew more and more odd, as a hermit. Her servants and European caretakers left one by one and she died alone at Dar Djoun. Robinson, *Wayward Women*, pp. 57–8. Ref.: Harvel and Haslip see below.*

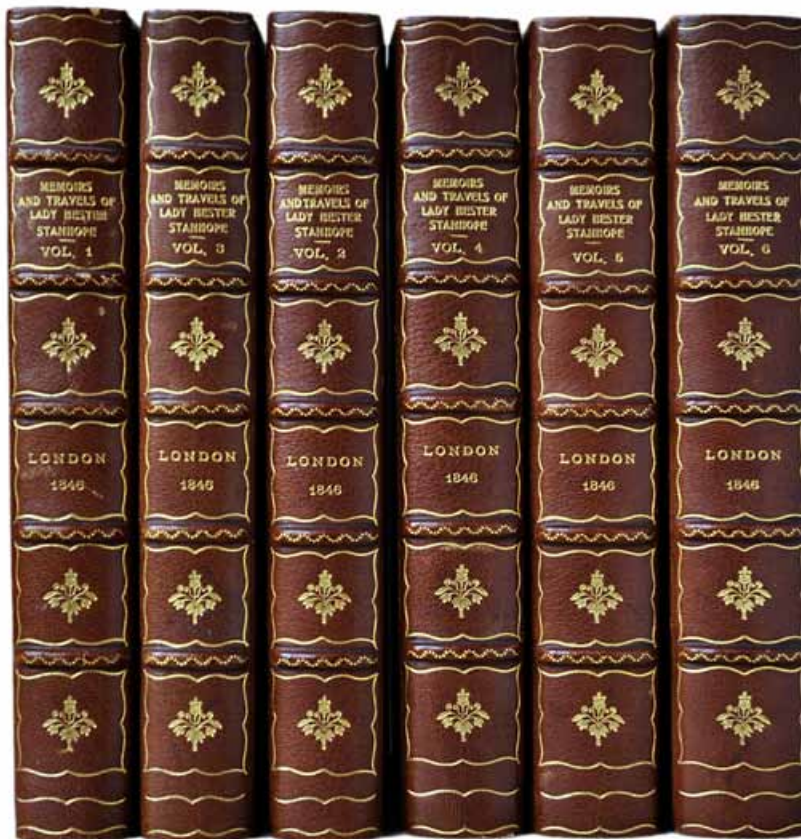
I. [MEYRON, CHARLES LEWIS]

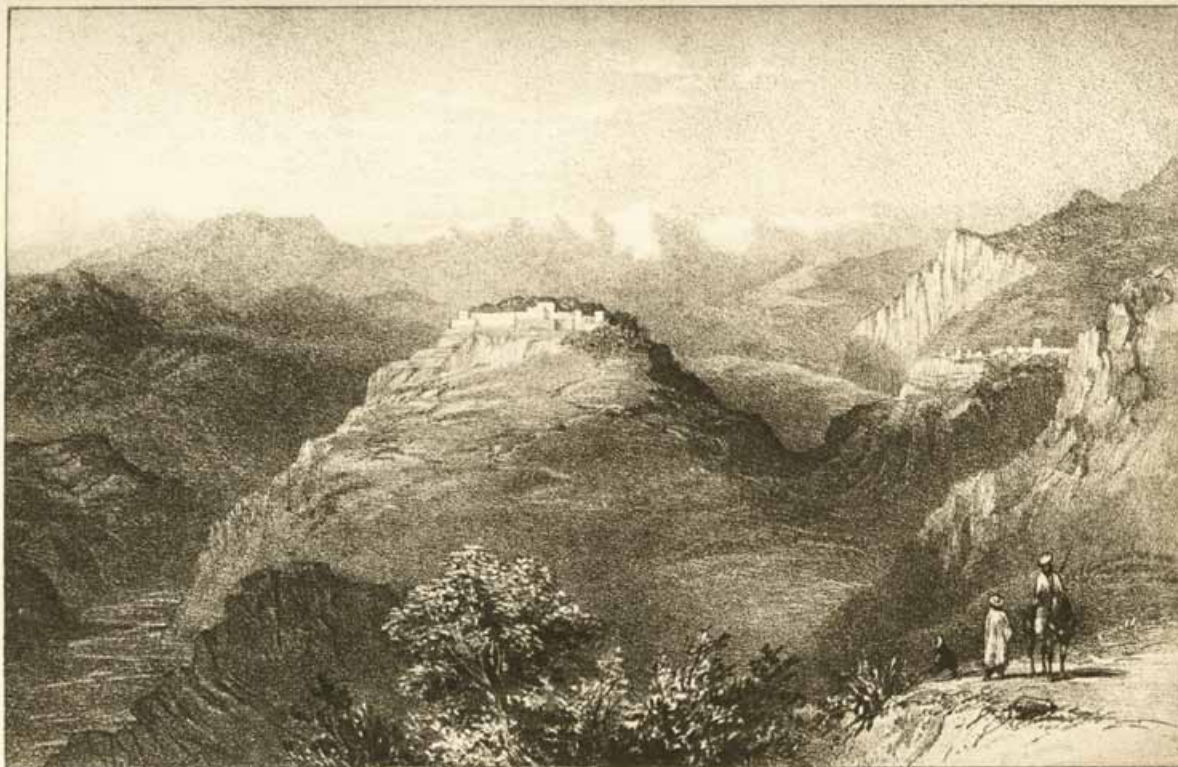
*Memoirs of the Lady Hester Stanhope, as Related by Herself in Conversations with Her Physician; Comprising Her Opinions and Anecdotes of some of the most Remarkable Persons of Her Time.* Three volumes. Second edition. London, Henry Colburn, 1845. € 2200

Pp. xx, 344; vi, 342; viii, 319, adv (1), 8. With three engraved frontispieces, of which one hand-coloured, and one folding table. One leaf with repair, no loss.

TOGETHER WITH: *Travels of Lady Hester Stanhope; Forming the Completion of Her Memoirs. Narrated by Her Physician.* Three volumes. First edition. London, Henry Colburn, 1846.

Pp. xx, 372; x, 400; viii, 424, adv. (6). With three engraved frontispieces and many wood-cut vignettes throughout. Six volumes uniformly bound in half morocco on marbled boards, spines stamped in gilt with five raised bands, marbled endpapers. Some staining to the fronts but otherwise a clean and fine copy. Her physician Dr. Charles Lewis Meryon, who accompanied Lady Hester on her travels and visited her at Dar Djoun, respected her wishes to keep silent until after her death. Blackmer III7. Not in Atabey.





A VIEW OF DJOUN, LADY HESTER'S HOME ON MOUNT LEBANON.

## 2. HAMEL, FRANK

*Lady Hester Lucy Stanhope. A New Light on her Life and Love Affairs.* London, Cassell & Co., etc. 1913. € 80

Pp. xvi, 3438. With twenty photogravures protected by tissue guards. Uncut copy in publisher's blue cloth, rubbed with some staining. Internally clean and crisp. First edition.

## 3. HASLIP, JOAN

*Lady Hester Stanhope. A Biography.* London, Cobden-Sanderson, 1934. € 100

Pp. xv, (i), 284. With front portrait and 9 full page plates. Some minor staining in the first part of the book. Publisher's yellow cloth, front cover beautifully hand painted with flowers within a decorated white border. First edition.





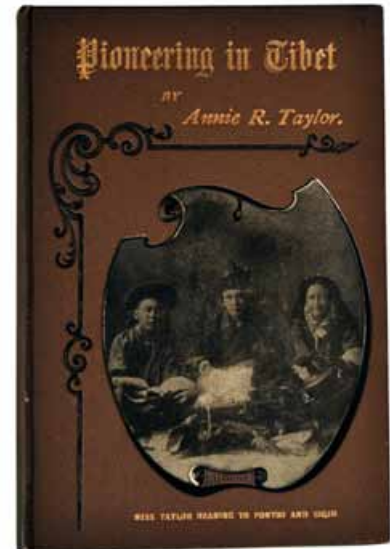
MISS TAYLOR IN TIBETAN DRESS.  
The cap is of fox-skin, made for her in the Mongol encampment.

## *She wanted to go to Lhasa and save its soul*

ANNIE TAYLOR (1838–1921?)

*Annie was a British missionary who came to China in 1884 and settled down on the borders to Tibet. She learned the language and habits of the Tibetan natives while living among lamas and refugees. Annie was absorbed with the soul's salvation and convinced that God wanted to send her to Tibet "the most unfriendly country in the world". In 1882 Annie, disguised as a pilgrim nun, and her servant Pontso set off together with a Chinese called Noga. It was a frightful seven months journey in difficult winter weather conditions and the party was plundered and robbed several times. Annie was*

*betrayed by her companion Noga and only three days within their goal Lhasa they had to return back. Annie was stubbornly determined to find a way back to Tibet but it never happened. Eventually she settled in Yatung, a British trading station on the border of Sikkim and Tibet where she opened a shop. In 1899 William Carey visited her and she was still there when the Younghusband mission passed through in 1904. Later she moved back to England but it's not known where and when she died. Middleton, Victorian lady travellers, pp. 107–127. Robinson "Wayward Women" p. 172–3.*



#### 4. TAYLOR, A.

*Pioneering in Tibet. The Origin and Progress of "The Tibetan Pioneer Mission", together with My Experiences in Tibet, and Some Facts about the Country.* London, Morgan and Scott, (1896-7). € 1250

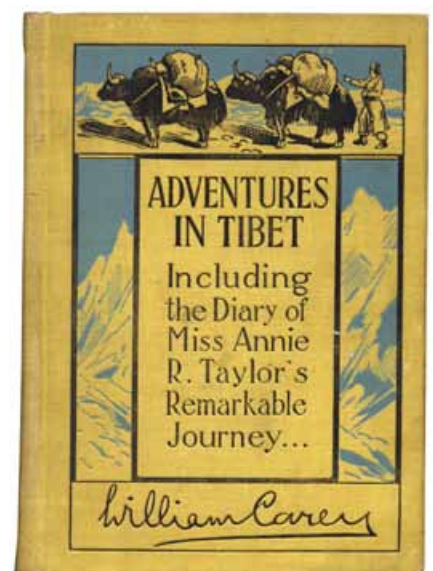
Small 8vo. Pp. 78, (2). With a route map and 11 half tones from photos in the text. Publisher's pictorial brown cloth, lettered in gilt, with half tone photo pasted on upper cover. Rare. First published as "The origin of the Tibetan Pioneer Mission" (20 pp) in 1894, here enlarged. Yakushi (1984) T11.

#### 5. CAREY, WILLIAM

*Adventures in Tibet. Including the Diary of Miss Annie R. Taylor's Remarkable Journey from Tau-Chau to Ta-Chien-Lu through the Heart of the "Forbidden Land".* Boston and Chicago, United Society of Christian Endeavor, 1901.

€ 280

Pp. 285. With 75 illustrations of which many made from photographs. Original decorated cloth, lightly stained. First edition. The first part of the book gives a detailed description of Tibet and its people, partly based on Annie Taylor's account and partly on other travellers who had visited Tibet previously including Sarat Chandra Das, a Bengalee who visited Lama in 1882. The second part reproduces Taylor's diary. Yakushi (1984) C 35a.





*Pioneer in the anthropological field  
with the heart in Africa*

MARY HENRIETTA KINGSLEY (1862–1900)

*Mary spent her first 30 years at home taking care of her illfated mother when her father was travelling the world devoted to anthropological work. When both her parents died in 1892 she decided to travel to Africa to study the primitive religions of the tribes there. Mary made two travels to West Africa between August 1893 and November 1895.*

*She worked as a trader and carried cloth and tobacco with fish hooks for small change to offer against rubber and ivory.*

*Her adventurous travels took her through wild countries away from civilization and European influence. She made important research work between the rivers Ogowé and*

*Rembwé. She was able to study and collect freshwater fishes and other zoological specimens "fish and fetish". Her adventurous travels took her through waterfalls and mangrove swamps and she fell into rivers and game pits meeting crocodiles, hippos and leopards. She was very brave and had an unique ability for peculiar adventures. She was a splendid writer with a great sense of humour not so much appreciated in her own time. Mary volunteered as a nurse during the Boer War but died shortly after arriving in South Africa. Robinson p. 138. Middleton, Victorian Lady Travellers, pp. 149–76.*





## 6. KINGSLEY, M.H.

*Travels in West Africa. Congo Français, Corisco and Cameroons.* London, Macmillan, 1897. € 500

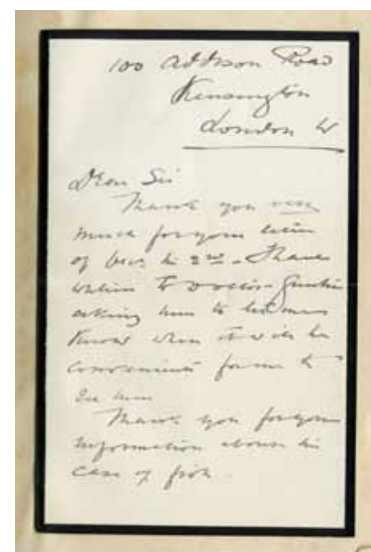
Pp. xvi, 744, adv.(8). With 16 halftones, 2 lithographed fish plates and many textual illustrations. Partly unopened. Publisher's red cloth, gilt lettering on spine. Old ownership signature on half title. Occasionally some minor staining in margin. First edition of Mary's first adventurous journey to Africa.

## 7. KINGSLEY, M.H.

*West African studies.* London, Macmillan and Co., 1901. € 400

Pp. xxxii, 507+ adv. 6. With one portrait of the author, one folding coloured map and 22 plates made from photographs. Publisher's red cloth, title lettered in gilt on spine. Some foxing to endpapers otherwise a very fine copy. Second edition (first 1899) enlarged with four additional chapters and an Appendix: "An Early African Voyage" which probably was her last composition. This Mary's second work included the results of her research, and sets forth at length her theories on how West Africa should be administrated.

INCLUDING A LETTER from Mary Kingsley to C.E. Fagan of the British Museum, Natural History. Dated December 3, 1895. Tipped in to the front free endpaper.



**8. KINGSLEY, M.H.**

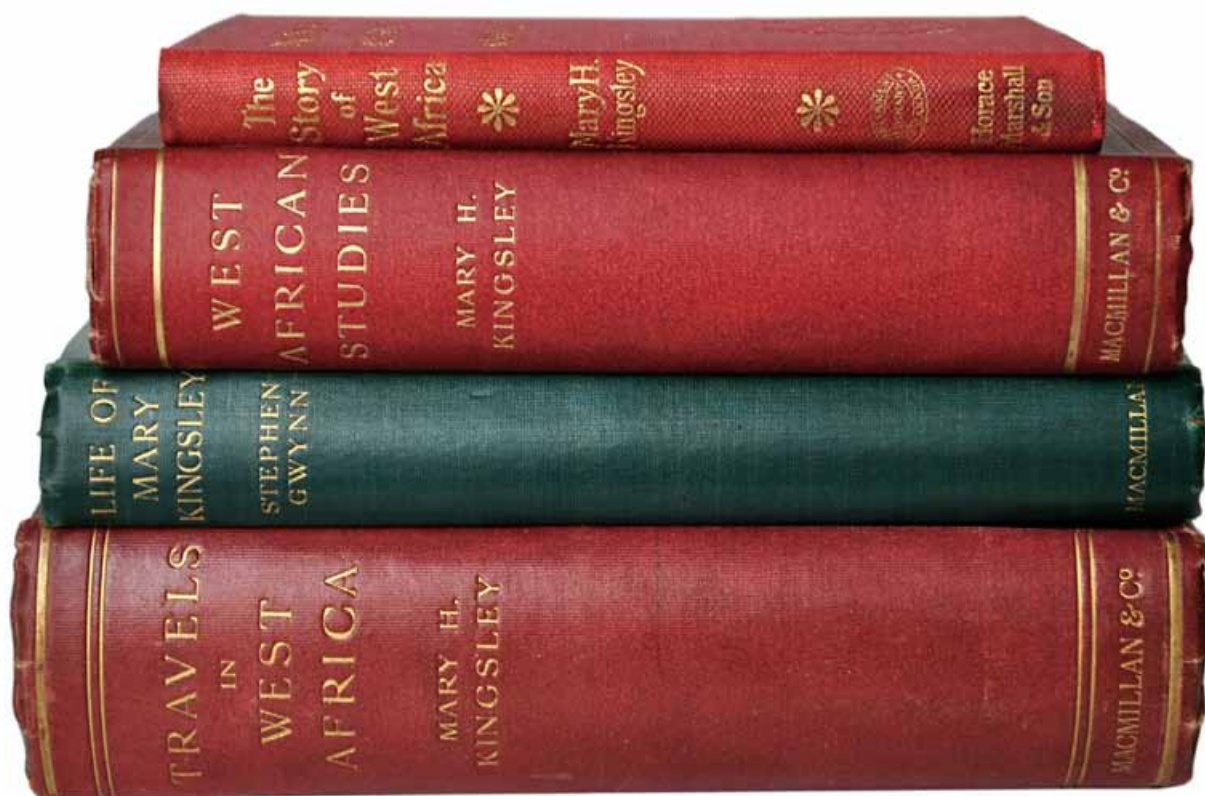
*The Story of West Africa*. London Horace Marshall & Son,  
about 1900. € 140

Small 8vo. Pp. viii, 169, (1). Original red cloth lettered in gilt,  
binding loosen. Library marks. First edition (The Story of the  
Empire ed. by H.A. Kennedy).

**9. GWYNN, STEPHEN**

*The Life of Mary Kingsley*. London, Macmillan & Co.,  
1933. € 50

Pp. viii, 285. With one folding map and front portrait. Publish-  
er's green cloth, gilt lettering to spine. First edition.





## *The uncrowned Queen of Iraq*

GERTRUDE MARGARET LOWTHIAN BELL (1868–1926)

*Gertrude was born into a wealthy industrial family in the north of England. She studied at Oxford and got a first hand degree in modern history. She travelled the world and became an excellent mountaineer in Switzerland. In 1904 her father died and then she commenced her travels eastwards. For many years she travelled extensively in Syria, along the Euphrates, into Eastern Turkey, Assyria and to the unmapped heart of Arabia. She became well-acquainted with the Arabic language, poetry and archeology. Gertrude, just as T.E. Lawrence, travelled the desert and established ties with local tribes and gained distinctive perspectives of the people and land.*

*During the first World War she was recruited by the British intelligence, at first serving as intelligence liaison between Cairo and the British Expeditionary Force in Basra. She played a major role in creating the modern Middle East. Throughout the 1920's Gertrude was an integral part of the administration of Iraq and served as political adviser to King Faisal I. She spent the rest of her life in Baghdad and was the founder of the Archaeological Museum (today National Museum) there. She died two days before her 58th birthday of an overdose. Robinson p. 4-6. Janet Wallach, *Desert Queen*, 1996.*



Bedouins of the Syrian Desert.  
(JOHN SARGENT, R.A.)

**IO. BELL, G.M.L.**

*The Desert and the Sown*. Printed by Ballantyne and Co,  
London. New York, E.P. Dutton, 1907. € 500

Pp. xvi, 347. With coloured frontispiece, one large folding map and more than 300 photographic illustrations in the text. Endpapers browned and map with some staining. Publisher's brown cloth, stained. Rare. This detailed account was written during her journey through the desert and countryside of Palestine, Jordan and Syria in the winter of 1906.

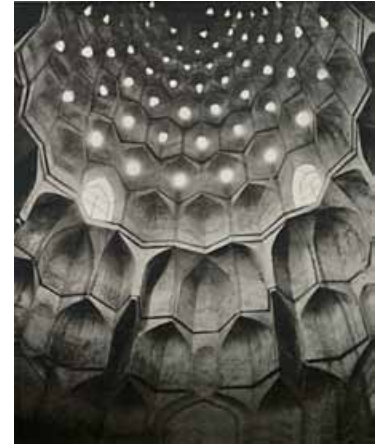




**II. BELL, G.M.L.**

*Amurath to Amurath.* London, W. Heinemann, 1911. € 460

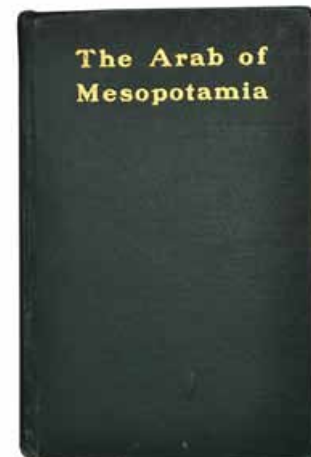
Thick 8vo. Pp. xvii, 370. With one large folding map (loose), frontispiece, 104 pages with illustrations made from photos, plans and other illustrations throughout the text. Contemporary cloth boards, rebacked with calf, recased. Library blindstamps. First edition. In the spring of 1909 Bell travelled from Aleppo down the Euphrates (Amurath) to Kerbela and Bagdad, and then back up the Tigris to Khaprput, and continued westward as far as to the Hittite city Carchemish. Includes detailed descriptions of many ruins and various types of architecture.



**12. BELL, G.M.L.**

*The Arab of Mesopotamia.* Printed by the Times Press, Bombay and published by the Superintendent, Government Press, Basrah, 1917. € 800

Small 8vo. (viii), 202. Includes a map as frontispiece. Original green cloth, gilt lettering on upper cover, binding slightly shaken. Inscription on front. Comprises articles or essays on subjects relating to Mesopotamia written 1916. Includes also a part called "Asiatic Turkey" (pp. 101–202) by Gertrude Bell comprising articles written by her at the request of the War Office in 1917. Bell served under Sir Percy Cos and Sir Arnold Wilson during World War I and she was part of the Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force in Basra and Baghdad. She made a masterly official report on the administration of Mesopotamia during the difficult period between the Armistice of 1918 and the Iraq rebellion of 1920.



**13. BELL, FLORENCE LADY**

*The Letters of Gertrude Bell. Selected and edited by Lady Bell, D.B.E.* Two volumes. London, Ernest Benn Limited, 1927. € 300

Pp. xiii, 402; vii, (i), pp. 405–791. With two frontispieces, one large folding map and 38 photographic illustrations. Publisher's green cloth, spine lettered gilt, faded. Very light staining to beginning and end of the second volume. First edition of this comprehensive biography of Gertrude Bell by her stepmother Florence Bell.



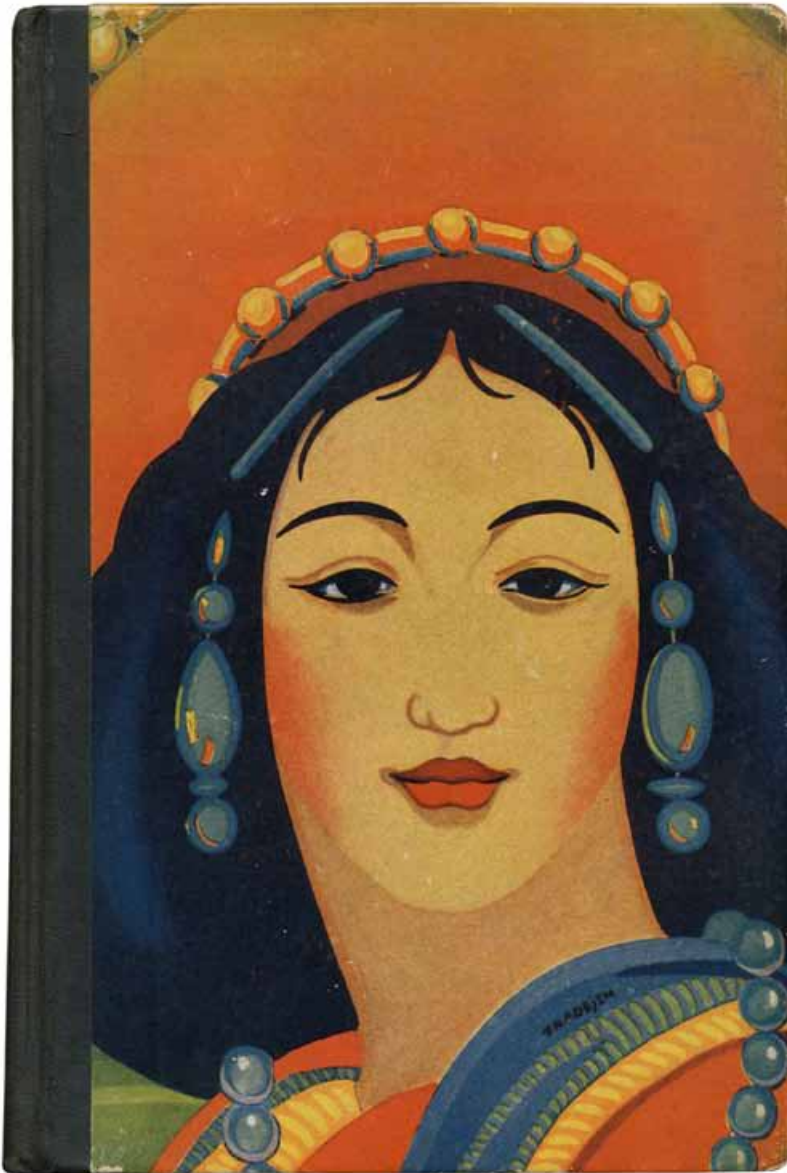
## *Spiritual seeker seduced by the philosophical life*

ALEXANDRINE DAVID-NEEL (1868–1969)

*Louise Eugénie Alexandrine Marie David was born into a French Catholic family. She had an unhappy childhood, escaped into books and found a solitary retreat at Musée Guimet. Maybe then and there her interest for Asia and Buddhism was initiated. She became a journalist and an acclaimed operatic soprano who seriously studied Buddhism and theosophy at Sorbonne. In her early twenties she started to travel and at the age of 36 she got married to Phillipe Neel in Tunis but they lived separately most of the time.*

*In 1911 Alexandrine left for Asia and stayed away for 14 years. She first arrived in Sikkim where she met with Yonden, a young Lama who became her travel companion for the rest of her life. She travelled to Japan, Korea and Burma before she came to China in 1917. She stayed at the Kumbum monas-*

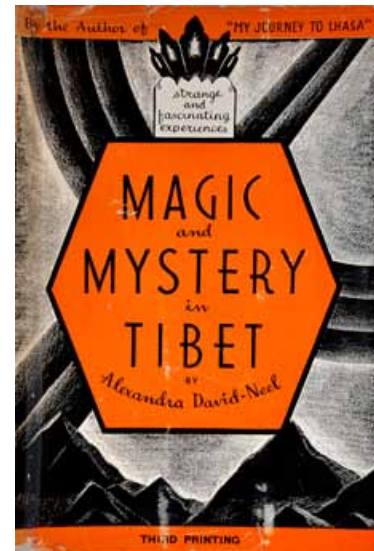
*tery in north western China for several years where she lived a nomadic life to learn about the Tibetan language and customs. Disguised as a Tibetan peasant woman at the age of 56 she travelled with Yonden for four and a half months on a long pilgrimage to Lhasa. It was an adventurous journey in difficult circumstances and under constant threat of detection. She was an orthodox Buddhist who adhorred superstition. The purpose was to investigate the practice as well as the philosophy of Buddhism. She wanted to find scientific explanations for the phenomena she observed. The last twenty years of her life she lived in the south of France where she died at the age of 100 years. Ruth Middleton, *Alexandra David-Neel Portrait of an Adventurer*, Boston 1989. Luree Miller, *On top of the world*, pp. 131–97. Robinson pp. 9–10.*



**I4. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

*My Journey to Lhasa. The Personal Story of the Only White Woman who Succeeded in Entering the Forbidden City.* New York, Harper & Brothers, 1927. € 380

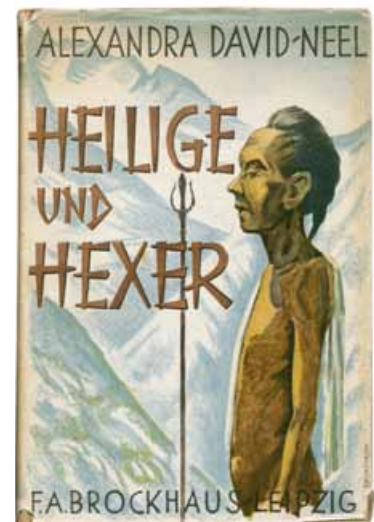
Pp. xviii, (ii), 310 + adv (3). With route map on front endpapers, front portrait and 43 half-tones from the author's photographs. Original cloth-backed illustrated paper boards, paper label with title on spine, corners rubbed. Old ownership signatures on verso of half title. First American edition translated from the original French ("Voyage d'un Parisienne à Lhasa" 1927). It was published simultaneously by Heinemann in London. Robinson p. 9. Yakushi (1984) D 45b.



**15. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

*Magic and mystery in Tibet.* New York 1933. € 140

Pp. xvi, 320. With many illustrations. Preface by Dr. A. D'Arsonval. Publisher's black cloth, spine gilt. With colourful dustjacket. First American edition (fourth printing). Originally published as "Mystique et Magiciens du Thibet" in Paris 1929. "The author describes her impressions of monasteries visited in Gangtol, Lachen, and Chorten-Nyima as well as those which she saw in Tibet". Yakushi (1984) D 46.



**16. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

*Heilige und Hexer. Glaube und Aberglaube im Lande des Lamaismus. Nach eigenen Erlebnissen in Tibet dargestellt.* Leipzig, Brockhaus, 1936. € 120

Large 8vo. Pp. 296. With one map and 22 illustrations. Some light staining at beginning and end. Original cloth. With pictorial dust jacket, lightly chipped at corners. Third German edition (first 1931) of "Mystique et Magiciens du Thibet". Yakushi (1984) D 46d. Aschoff 365.

**17. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

*Bland mystiker och magiker i Tibet.* Stockholm, Hugo Geber, & Uppsala 1933. € 80

Pp. x, 275. With one map and 29 photographic illustrations. Uncut copy in publisher's pictorial paper covers, lightly rubbed along edges. First Swedish edition of "Mystiques et Magiciens du Thibet" translated by Aslög Davidson.





**18. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

*Meister und Schüler. Die Geheimnisse der lamaistischen Weihen. Auf Grund eigener Erfahrungen dargestellt.* Leipzig, Brockhaus, 1934. € 100

Pp. 191. With one frontispiece and 35 illustrations. Original cloth. A German edition translated from the French by A. Ditzen. A continuation of the "Mystique et Magiciens du Tibet". Aschoff 367.

**19. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

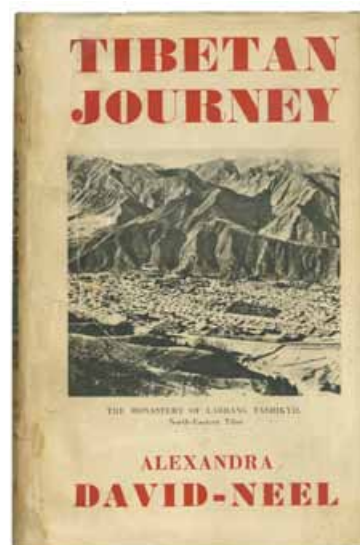
*Tibetan Journey.* London, John Lane The Bodley Head, 1936. € 580

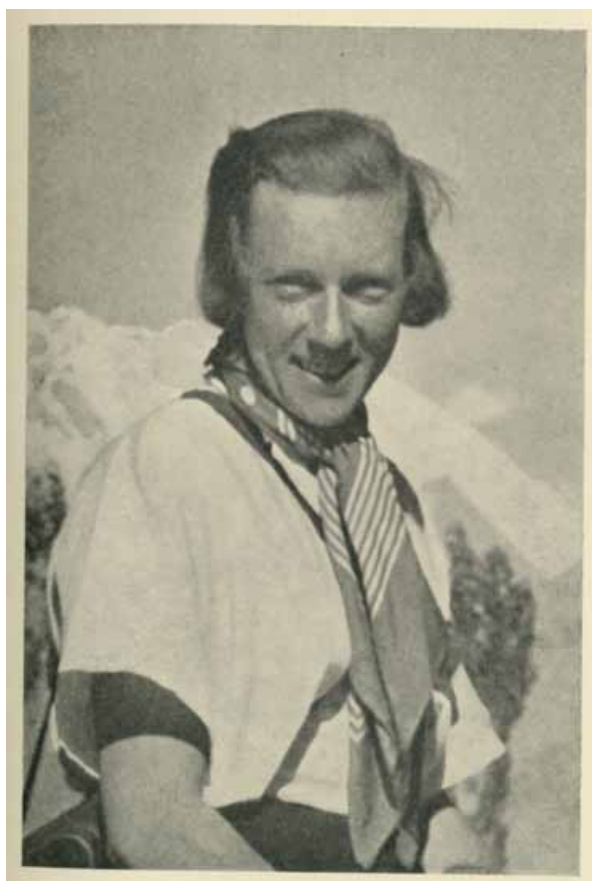
Pp. xii, 276. With frontispiece, one folding map and 15 fullpage plates with many ills. With marginalia in pencil, mainly in Tibetan. Last leaf with small marginal repair, no loss. Publisher's red cloth, spine lettered in gilt. In original pictorial dustjacket, a few tears restored with tape on verso. First English edition of this rich and vivid account of secret Tibet. Alexandra describes the Buddhist and Taoist philosophy as well as the strange cults of hermits and Shamanist magicians. Yakushi (1984) D50.

**20. DAVID-NEEL, A.**

*Tibetan Journey.* London, John Lane The Bodley Head, 1936. € 320

Pp. xii, 276. With frontispiece, one folding map and 15 fullpage plates with many ills. Publisher's red cloth, spine lettered in gilt, spine faded. Without dustjacket. Old ownership signature on front endpaper. Some minor staining to the first few leaves and the outer edges in some cases affecting the outer margins. First English edition. Yakushi (1984) D50.





*She travelled to find the truth within herself*

ELLA MAILLART (1903–1997)

*Ella was brought up in Switzerland by a fur trading father and a sporty Danish mother.*

*She became an enthusiastic skier in the winter and great sailor in the summer but also already at an early age she loved to read books. In 1929 she travelled to Russia to write about the film industry but actually she was interested in observing Russian life and Communism at first hand. She made a journey to the Russian Turkestan and the Tien Shan range where she lived amongst dignified Kirghiz and Kazakh tribes men. Commissioned as a special correspondent with *Le Petit Parisien* she was sent to China to investigate Japanese occupied Manchuria. There she met the British explorer Peter Fleming and they decided to return together*

*to Europe overland. They made an eight months tough journey from Peking through the Gobi and Takla Makan deserts to the gorge of the Hindu Kush. Ella continued to travel to Asia and between 1939 and 1945 she lived in India. She settled in Tiruvannamali, south of Madras, where she learned about Advaita Vedanta, one of the ancient schools of Hindu philosophy. Here she started on a new journey by exploring the unmapped territory of her own mind. After the Second World War she returned to Switzerland and settled in Geneva and in the wintertime at Chandolin in the Swiss Alps. For the next thirty years she organized cultural tours to various Asian countries. Robinson pp. 52-3.*



**21. MAILLART, E.**

*Turkestan Solo. One Woman's Expedition from the Tien Shan to the Kizil Kum.* London, Putman, Covent Garden, 1934.

€ 260

Pp. xi, 307. With three maps and 64 plates made from photographs. An uncut, clean and crisp copy. Publisher's red cloth, very light wear. First English edition, translated by John Rodker from the original French titled "Des Montes célestes..." (1934). A narrative of a remarkable trek in 1932 from Moscow to the easternmost borders of Russian Turkestan.

**22. MAILLART, E.**

*Forbidden Journey. From Peking to Kashmir.* London 1937.

€ 260

Pp. xvi, 312. With 3 maps and 64 illustrations made from photographs. Publisher's red cloth, light stains to spine. First English edition (first issue) which was published in the same year as the original French edition; "Oasis interdites". This is Ella's story of the tough journey together with Peter Fleming in 1934 through the great deserts over the Tsaidam plateau and via the Pamirs to Srinagar in Kashmir. Yakushi (1984) M42b.

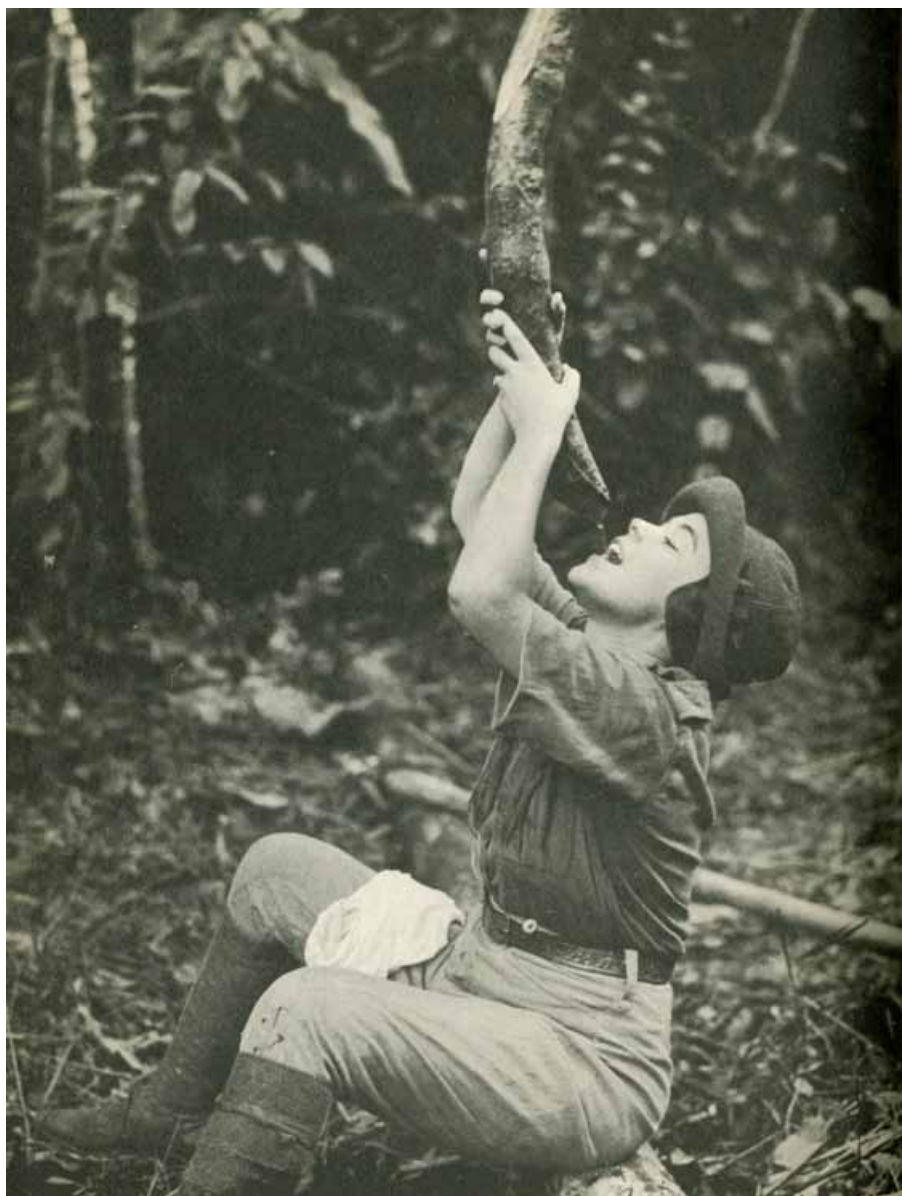
23. MAILLART, E.

*Ti-Puss*. London, W. Heinemann, 1951.

€ 220

Pp.213. With one map and 19 illustrations made from photographs. Publisher's grey cloth in original pictorial dustjacket, lightly chipped at upper edges. Bookplate and ownership signature. Partly with some light stain at outer margin. First edition. This book is written during a highly significant period of Ella's life. It's about her spiritual quest in India. The journey went from the very south of India Cape Cormorin, northwards past Pondicherry and Madras to Benares and the sacred waters of Ganges. It continues through the flowering jungle into the blizzards of the Tibetan border. Her travel companion was a half wild cat called Ti-Puss.





## *Documentary filmmaking in the wild lands*

OSA JOHNSON (1894–1953)

*Osa Leighty was born and raised in Chanute, Kansas. She married Martin Johnson and together they explored faraway and then unknown-lands of East and Central Africa, the South Pacific Islands and British Borneo. They studied the wildlife and peoples of various exotic and undiscovered places, and returned with photographs and film footage. The last journey together was back to Borneo*

*where they were filming amongst the Teng-gara tribe. When Osa's husband Martin died 1937 in a plane crash Osa carried on their work alone. She produced more documentary films from material they already had collected and in 1938 she led Twentieth Century Fox's expedition to Africa for the filming of their epic "Stanley and Livingstone". Robinson p. 50-1.*



**24. JOHNSON, O.**

*I Married Adventure. The Lives and Adventures of Martin and Osa Johnson.* J.B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, New York, London, Toronto, 1940. € 400

Pp. 376 with 83 photographic illustrations. Publisher's zebra-striped cloth. Ownership signature on half title. First edition of Osa Johnson's autobiography which immediately became a bestseller.

