

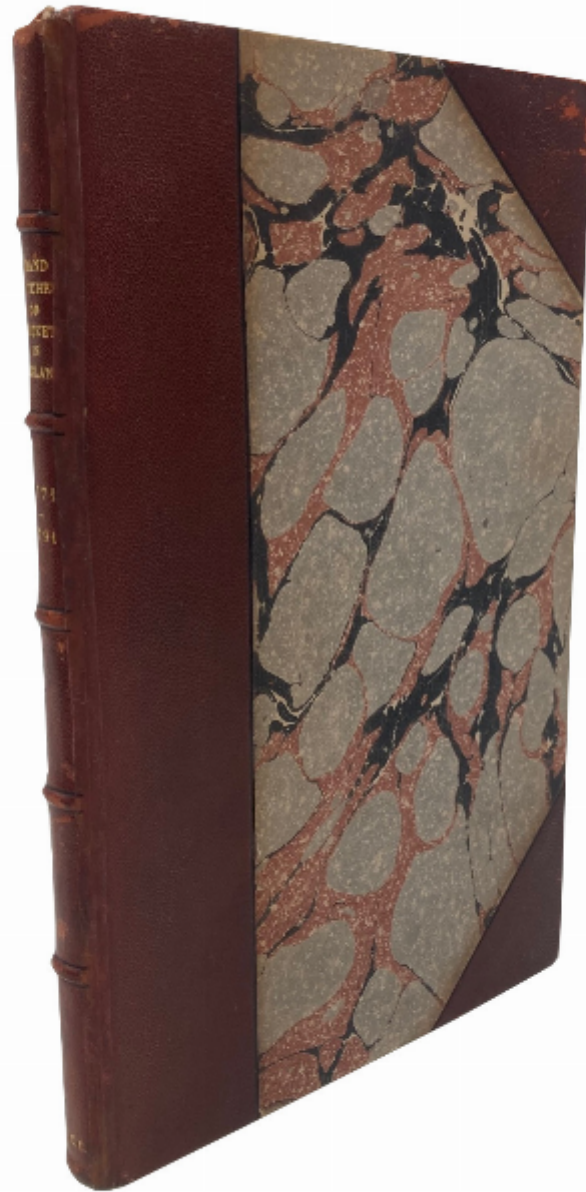


TEMPLE
RARE BOOKS OF OXFORD

Cricket. A Collection of All the Grand Matches of Cricket, Played
in England, Within Twenty Years; Viz. From 1771, to 1791, Never
Before Published

William Epps

£160,000



REF: 1531

Description

[5], 6-104pp. Later half morocco and marbled paper over boards, raised bands, spine in six panels, title lettered directly to second panel, dates to third, with initials to foot, marbled endpapers, ex-library (M.C.C.), with their initials to foot of spine, and their bookplates to front pastedown and front free endpaper, with a library security sticker to lower pastedown. Upper joint repaired, lower joint split at head but holding well, head of spine chipped, some wear to corners, minor wear to extremities. Some very minor soiling internally, title moderately foxed, other occasional light foxing, but generally fairly clean. Bottom corner of pages 13 / 14 torn away (not affecting text), one pencilled correction to page 31, ink notes to front free endpaper, dates covered to upper wrapper. Original wrappers bound in, untrimmed, now housed in a black cloth drop back box by Temple Bookbinders. William Epps was a cricketer and a printer from Troy-Town, named after the wine merchant John Cazeneuve Troy, near Rochester. The 'Apology', prefacing the scores themselves, explains that he saw no need to take his work beyond 1791 because of the "regular annual publication, by Mr. Britcher, the Scorer to the Mary-le-bone Club, which, of course, obviates the necessity of continuing this publication to a subsequent period". Whereas Britcher's scorebooks were annual publications covering the seasons 1790-1805 as they occurred, Epps covered the twenty year period antecedent to Britcher in this single volume. The 'black tulip' of cricket books, with only two copies on Rare Book Hub showing as sold at auction since 1958 (though there were at least two others, in 1966 and 2005), this copy sold at Christies in 2010 for £151,250. The BL didn't have a copy until last year. Padwick 877