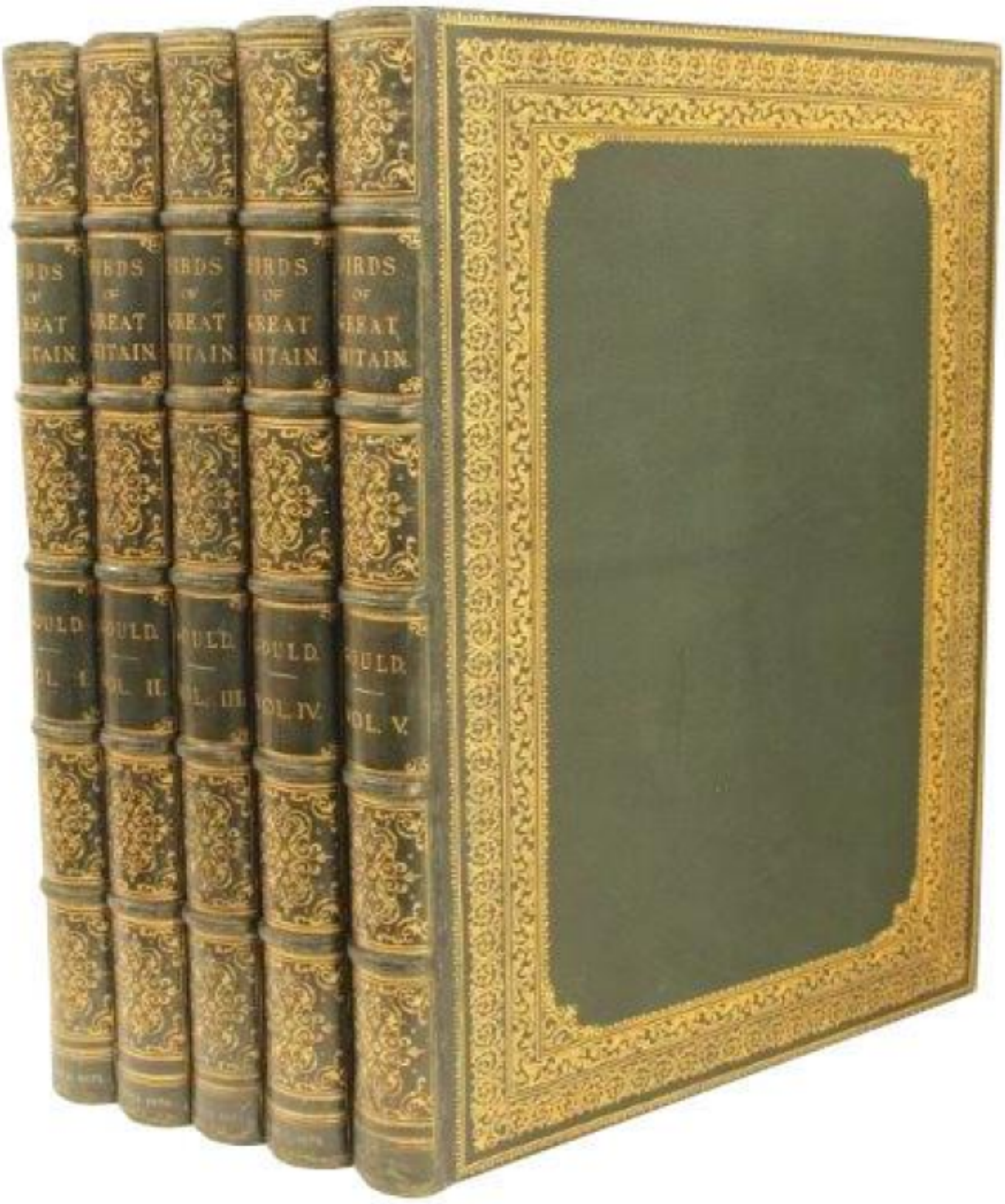
TEMPLE
RARE BOOKS OF OXFORD

The Birds of Great Britain

Taylor And Francis

Sold



REF: 1395

Temple Rare Books
1 Paternoster Farm, 107 Cassington Road, Yarnton, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX5 1QB
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Description

1862-1873, complete in five volumes with a total of three hundred and sixty-seven colour lithographs, comprising Volume One, with thirty-seven plates; Volume Two, with seventy-eight plates; Volume Three, with seventy-six plates; Volume Four, with ninety plates and Volume Five, with eighty-six plates

Slightly later full morocco, raised bands, spines in six panels, title in gilt to second panel, author and volume in gilt to fourth, remaining panels with large central device and volute corner pieces in gilt, place and date to foot. Panels with small fleuron rolled border, surrounding a larger rolled foliate frame, a double fillet frame, a further rolled foliate frame, another double fillet frame and finally a small fleuron rolled frame with larger fleuron corner pieces, a.e.g., inner edges with fleuron rolled border surrounding a triple fillet and marbled endpapers

Slightly rubbed to extremities, especially foot of spines. Internally some occasional light soiling, two plates with splash of foxing to head (Calamoherpe Palustris and Luscinia Philomola), but otherwise generally quite bright and clean

With three hundred and sixty-seven fine, hand coloured lithograph plates by Richter and Hart after Gould and Wolf, heightened with gum-arabic

Gould's most popular work, "the most sumptuous and costly of the British Bird books", (Mullens and Swann, Bibliography of British Ornithology, page 240), with four hundred and sixty-eight subscribers listed in 'An Introduction to the Birds of Great Britain', it was originally issued in twenty-five half-yearly parts, priced at three guineas each according to the prospectus, commencing in October 1862 and concluding in December 1873. Sauer presumes fifteen plates to each part, with fourteen in part nineteen and eight in the final part, though he does note that "other mathematical combinations are possible" (Sauer, John Gould The Bird Man, page 77). John Gould (1804-1881), "will always be remembered by the magnificent series of folio works bearing his name ... which are excelled in extent and beauty by the work of no one other ornithologist, past or present" (Mullens and Swann,, page 240)

Freeman 1398; Fine Bird Books, page 78; Nissen IVB 372; Mullens and Swann, page 242 and Sauer 23

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