"Carol gave me Sandburg, Lincoln for Xmas. I already had the Prairie Years. Beautiful job."
--JS/CS, 16 January 1940 (SLL, p. 197)

Presentation Copy


"Sanderson makes some very interesting remarks about vampire bats...."
--JS & EFR, SOC, Chapter 25 (p. 236)

EFRL (gift of Pascal Covici, 15 December 1939)


Stamped: This Book Belongs to Carol and John Steinbeck

"I sent lots of books back [from Florence].... Lots of the books I bought and did not have room for but also some new ones.... The prize is the only English translation of Sapori's book on Renaissance business in Florence.
It was printed privately for an insurance company and is very rare. And it is a perfectly beautiful job of book making."
--JS/CH, 21 May 1957 (Bracken)

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"...made me a little ill it was so bad and so tricky."
--JS/GA, [1935] (Bancroft)
"In my estimation, Willa Cather writes the best prose in America and William Saroyan the worst."
--JS/Lewis Gannett, 10 May [1935] (Houghton)

"The library contained all the separates then available on the Panamic and Gulf fauna. Primary volumes such as ... Schmitt's...."
--JS & EFR, WFL, SOC, Chapter 1 (p. 12)
"The fish and game man seemed very eager to know more about his field [shrimp], and we promised to send him Schmitt's fine volume...."
--JS & EFR, SOC, Chapter 27 (p. 249)

"'Oh I've [Jim Nolan] read a hell of a lot.... Schopenhauer.'"
--JS, IDB, Chapter 1 (p. 8)
CS/RD, 13 May 1979

"I have been reading the life of Alfred Nobel...."
--JS, "Nobel Prize Speech" (SLL, p. 898)
JSPL

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"It was while his [James Flower's] two broken legs were healing that he came on Scot's 'Discoverie of Witchcraft.'"

--JS, *COG,* Chapter Two (p. 55)


"Miss [Molly] Morgan introduced a practice that made the pupils adore her. Every afternoon she read to them for half an hour. She read by installments, *Ivanhoe* and *The Talisman*...."

--JS, *POR,* Chapter Four (p. 42)


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EFRL (purchased between late November 1936 and 30 January 1937)


EFRL (gift of Joseph Campbell, 7 October 1939)


JSPL

EFRL (gift of Webster Street, June 1939)


"Yesterday she [Elaine Steinbeck] kept saying, 'But I'm an amateur' [at writing], until finally I had to say, 'So was Madame de Sévigné, so was everybody once....'"

--JS/EO, 18 March 1967 (*SLL*, p. 846)


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Edition Unknown.

"I first read Caesar and Cleopatra about seven or eight years ago, and was so impressed that I immediately wrote a sequel to it concerning the coming of Marc and his battle with the few and carefully misunderstood principles Caesar had left with Cleopatra. It was a failure. I was about seventeen at the time."

--JS/RC, 14 April 1928 (*SLL*, p. 8)

"I am learning Shaw's lines to howl at the Sphinx...."

--JS/Bo Beskow, 21 January [1952] (*SLL*, p. 434)


ALW/RD, 22 July 1973


"Once let your fine artist put on his flowered silk dressing gown ... let him have comfort without anxiety
and that man ends up by writing a St. Joan...."
--JS/GA, [1931] (Bancroft)

"I have read most of the histories, testimonies, novels
and plays which concern Joan [of Arc] and her times...."
--JS, "Joan" (p. 17)

736. Sheean, Vincent. *Personal History.* Garden City, New
York: Doubleday, Doran, 1937.
EFRL (purchased July 1938)

737. Sherwood, Robert. *Abe Lincoln in Illinois.* New York:
Scribner's, 1939.

738. ______. *The Petrified Forest.* New York: Scribner's,
1935.
JSPL

739. Shirer, William. *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich.*
"A wonderful job.... He has done a fine history."
--JS/EO, 24 February 1962 (SUL)

"I ate my corned-beef hash, and then made down my bed
and dug out Shirer's *Rise and Fall of the Third Reich.*"
--JS, *TWC*, Part Two (p. 32)
JSPL

Edition Unknown.

741. ______. *The Don Flows Home to the Sea.* (1940). Edition
Unknown.

"I do know that if I had read only Russian history I
could not have had the access to Russian thinking
I have had from reading ... Sholokov...."
--JS, *A&A*, "Americans and the World" (pp. 163-164)

742. Sinclair, Upton. *The Brass Check.* Pasadena, California:
[Privately Printed], [1919].
JS/Marion Sheffield, 21 September [1923] (SUL)

CS/RD, 11 August 1979

With John Steinbeck Ownership Stamp
JSPL


"I have been reading Smollett for the last few days and thoroughly enjoying Roderick Random. Haven't read that for thirty years. Can you think what our critics would do if it was published today?"
--JS/PC, 28 January 1963 *(S&C, p. 230)*


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EFRL


Inscribed to Carol Steinbeck: "Here is my old school copy of Sophocles. I want you to read the trilogy of Oedipus particularly. I like this translation, it has more dignity than most of the pretentious translations in verse. I hope you will enjoy these plays. They are timeless, magnificent things."

JSPL


"The investigations have so far been gratifying. I find that in ... history and cultural aspects, Spengler.... is headed in the same direction and the direction is
toward my thesis. This in itself would indicate the beginning of a new phalanx or group unit."
--JS/CS, 30 June 1933 (SUL)

"... the whole world is changing day by day. It is changing just as Spengler said it would in the Decline of the West...."
--JS/ES, 30 September [1960] (SUL)


"'Oh, I've [Jim Nolan] read a hell of a lot.... Spinozo....""
--JS, *IDB*, Chapter 1 (p. 8)


CS/RD, 13 May 1979


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JB/RD, 10 June 1980


"I have been reading a great deal about women in the Middle Ages...."
--JS/CH and EO, 9 May 1957 (*ACTS*, p. 306)

JSPL


"I've been back into ... histories of ... Saxon Britain...."

"I do not think that the elimination of the article in the title [COG] would make it more biting, although I am not in the least afraid of confusion with Stephens' Crock...."
--JS/Katherine Beswick, [February 1928] (SUL)


"I have been reading the Siege of Limerick simultaneously in Macaulay and Sgt. Trim's account of it in Tristram Shandy.  What contempt was felt for the Irish before they went into ward politics."
--JS/RB, 11 September [1935] (HRC)

"From the funny little story it [WB] is growing to the most ambitious thing I have ever attempted.  Not that it still won't be funny as Tom Jones and Tristram Shandy and Don Quixote are funny."
--JS/PC, 12 July [1945] (SLL, p. 284)

"I am sure that [Al Capp] is the best satirist since Laurence Sterne."
--JS, "Introduction," The World of Li'l Abner (p. [2])


"As a writer I love the clear, clean writing of Stevenson.  As a man I like his intelligent, humorous, logical, civilized mind."
--JS, "Foreword," The Speeches of Adlai Stevenson (p. 8)

JSPL


"Last night ... I started reading The Black Arrow of RLS. The language is that of the War of the Roses. The kids are fascinated by the change of word sequences."
--JS/ES, [26 March 1953] (SLL, p. 470)


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"When Mrs. Maltby put a hoe in his hand and set him [Junius Maltby] to work in the vegetable garden, she found him, likely enough, hours later, dangling his feet in the meadow stream and reading his pocket copy of *Kidnapped."
--JS, *POH*, Chapter Six (p. 67).


"Junius went back to the stream and read a few pages of *Travels with a Donkey.*"
--JS, *POH*, Chapter Six (p. 68).


"... he [Junius Maltby] read aloud the second chapter of *Treasure Island*...."
--JS, *POH*, Chapter Six (p. 68)

"Monterey is a city with a long and brilliant literary tradition. It remembers with pleasure and some glory that Robert Louis Stevenson lived there. Treasure Island certainly has the topography and the coastal plan of Pt. Lobos."
--JS, *CR*, Chapter 12 (p. 43)
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    "I was not aware that either Leaves of Grass or Uncle Tom's Cabin had failed."
    --JS/E0, 3 November 1939 (SUL)
    "Could you please either send me mine or another. I think that is all I will need. It's mostly words and their meanings."
    --JS/CH, 9 April 1959 (ACTS, p. 332)
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    Stamped: From the Library of John Steinbeck
    JSPL

JS/EO, 5 February 1962 (SUL)

"... an American literature about Americans.... was and is no more flattering than ... Suetonius ... about the Romans..." --JS, *A&A,* "Americans and the World" (p. 162)


"In Honolulu, Marine General Krielak loaned me his copy of ... Griffith's translation of the original work and I was able to read it quickly, but was unable to make the loan permanent. To read Sun Tzu is to marvel that this ancient treatise has never been improved and is indeed applicable today and particularly in Vietnam. --JS, "Letters to Alicia," Long Island *Newsday* (14 January 1967)


EFRL (purchased 13 March 1937)


"The poetical satires in Gulliver have long been forgotten but the stories go on." --JS, Holograph enclosure with letter to PC, September 1942 (HRC)


EFRL (purchased 18 January 1938)


EFRL (purchased May 1939)


JSPL
"Tacitus ... places as one of the tactical methods advanced to be used against the German armies their exposure to a warm climate and a soft rich food supply. These, he said, will ruin troops quicker than anything else."
--JS & EFR, SOC, Chapter 23 (p. 227)  
"... an American literature about Americans.... was and is no more flattering than ... Tacitus ... about the Romans...."

EFRL (purchased August 1937)


CB/RD, 21 September 1979

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792. Tedlock, E.W., and C.V. Wicker, eds. Steinbeck and His Critics: A Record of Twenty-Five Years. Albuquerque:
Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1957.

"I am pleased and grateful for the enormous amount of research and work that has gone into this book. What a huge amount of reading must have been done. This cannot fail to be flattering to me and I love compliments."
--JS/Roland Dickey, 7 December 1956 (SAHC, pp. 307-308)


"Tennyson rewrote [Malory] for his soft Victorian audience and pulled the toughness out."
--JS/EO, 9 July 1958 (ACTS, p. 321)

"... people who know the [Arthurian] cycle, if questioned closely will find they only have echoes of Tennyson who was himself a pale echo of the source."
--JS/EV, 27 August 1959 (SUL)


EO/RD, 20 August 1979


"An amazing book. I wish I didn't smell a phoney, but I do."
--JS/EO, 31 March 1957 (SUL)


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EFRL (purchased 4 December 1937)

"For the Ancient times of Herodotus, of Xenophon, of Thucydides were personal things to him [Richard White-
side].... He read the Persian War, the Peloponnesian
Wars and the Ten Thousand every year."
--JS, *POH*, Chapter 11 (p. 159)

"You can never talk people out of fighting. Every new
generation has to know by trying. Thucydides says it
was true in his day."
--JS/PC, 1 December 1954 (*SLL*, p. 501)

"One of the nice things about this time is the re-reading
of the the old things and re-evaluating. Some things
I admired have fallen off but others have become far
greater.... Thucydides has gone way up. They haven't
changed--I have,"
--JS/EO, 19 February 1962 (*SUL*)

"... an American literature about Americans.... was
and is no more flattering than ... Thucydides about
the Greeks...."

Unknown.

"Remember in War and Peace how Tolstoy makes it clear
that every victory Napoleon won over the Russians hurried
his destruction."
--JS/William Gage, [1 December 1936] (*SRC*)

"... but I do know that if I had read only Russian
history I could not have had the access to Russian thinking
I have had from reading ... Tolstoi...."
--JS, *A&A*, "Americans and the World" (pp. 163-164)


JSPL

802. Toynbee, Jocelyn, and John W. Perkins. *The Shrine of

JSPL

802a. *The Travels of Leo of Rozmital ... 1465-1467*. Translated
by Malcolm Letts. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press,
1957.

JSPL