A RARE SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY COPY OF THE BOOK OF PSALMS AS ARRANGED BY STERHOLD AND HOPKINS, THE FIRST TO TRANSLATE THE PSALMS INTO ENGLISH

The Whole Book of Psalmes: Collected into English Meeter by Thomas Sternhold, John Hopkins, and others. London: Company of Stationeers, 1638. Hardcover. Un-paginated.

An early-seventeenth century copy of the Book of Psalms as arranged in English meter by Thomas Sternhold and John Hopkins. The Sternhold and Hopkins psalter, which was first published in the mid-sixteenth century and would continue to be used by Anglicans in England and America for about two hundred years, was the first English-language translation of the psalms.* This edition is roughly contemporary with the first English translation of the Bible – the *King James Bible* (1611). It is fully bound in leather, about one quarter of which is now lost. The binding is also coming apart, and the pages show darkening and wrinkling, though they are still quite legible. Such flaws non-withstanding, the book is in good overall condition for its age and particularly for a text that would have been much used and consulted by a succession of owners throughout its lifetime. A very old copy of a book key to the history and development of the Church of England.

*"Sternhold and Hopkins Psalter" on Music for the Church of God website. http://cgmusic.org/workshop/oldver_frame.htm. Accessed Jan. 19, 2015. "Sternhold & Hopkins Psalms" on 18th Century Bibles & Other Literature website. http://18thcenturybibles.org/Sternhold_%26_Hopkins_Psalter.html. Accessed Jan. 19, 2015.

Price upon Request