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T.E. Lawrence Short List *Codename 'Aqaba'* February 2019

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1. **MIDDLE EAST.** After **DAVID ROBERTS [1833-1898]** **British Artist.** 'Island of Graia Gulf of Akabah' Camels and riders on the seashore. Tinted lithograph, with good hand-colouring, in imitation of the original, from 'Holy Land . . .', *good margins, small brown spot in sky*, Published by G.G. Moon, 1st Oct 1844. 17 x 24in (sheet size). Good clean impression.

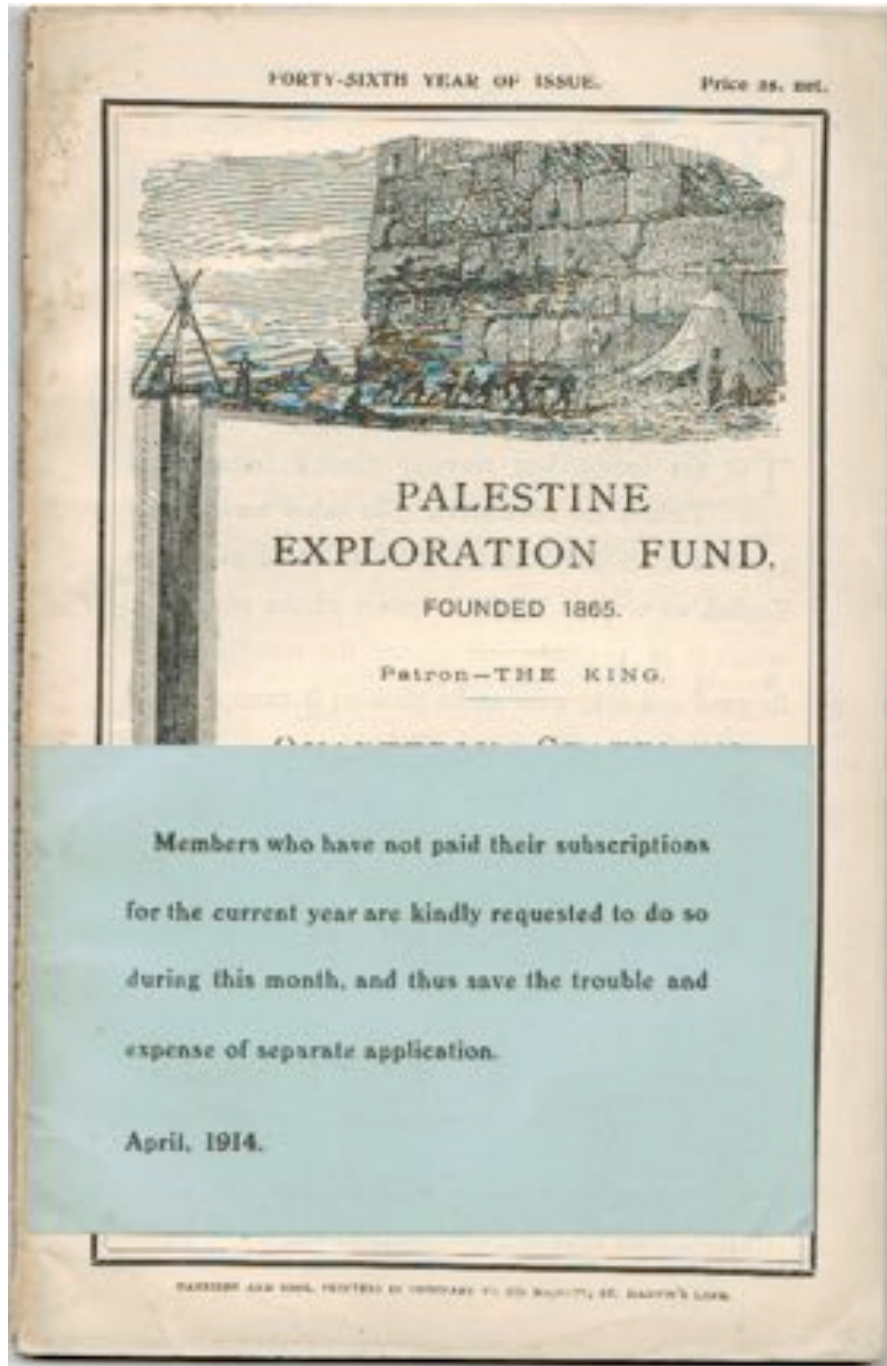
£275

The Gulf of Aqaba is to the east of the Sinai peninsula. David Roberts drew this wonderful image at sunset on 27 February 1839. It has been suggested Roberts himself is the figure on the right in Turkish robes with turban. The island is also known as Pharaoh's island and is dominated by a Crusader castle. It is near the settlement of Aqaba which T.E. Lawrence and an Arab force attacked in October 1917, expelling the Ottoman forces which had occupied the town.

2. **PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.** Quarterly Statement. January 1914. Illus., adverts; 48pp. *orig. printed wrappers*, 1914. Clean copy.

£20

Includes 'The Desert of the Wanderings' by Sir Charles M. Watson, which mentions the Survey organised by The Palestine Exploration Fund is in hand and 'the primary duty of the explorers will be to make an accurate map of the district'.



3. PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND. Quarterly Statement. April 1914. Illus.; 49-100pp. *orig. wrappers*, 1914. NOT IN O'BRIEN

£150

This issue contains "The Desert of the Wanderings. Report on the Survey by the Palestine Exploration Fund" by C. Leonard Woolley. Lawrence and Woolley left Gaza to join the Survey in January 1914. Their archaeological work was published as "The Wilderness of Zin".

4. PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND. Quarterly Statement. July 1914. Adverts; 101-156pp. *orig. printed wrappers*, 1914. Clean copy. O'BRIEN G0001 **£100**

This issue contains Captain Newcombe's 'Report of The Survey of Sinai and South Palestine' that he wrote at Aqaba which mentions the archaeological research by Woolley and Lawrence.

5. PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND. Quarterly Statement. October 1914. Illus., adverts; 157-208pp. *orig. printed wrappers*, 1914. Clean copy. **£20**

In Notes and News there is a mention of the Annual for 1914 as being a Survey of the South Country, concluding, 'Messrs Woolley and Lawrence, the archaeologists, had to join very hurriedly and without such equipment as would have reduced the hardships of such travel'.



6. [T.E. LAWRENCE]. [DOWSON, Sir ERNEST]: A Short Note on the Design and Issue of Postage Stamps: prepared by the Survey of Egypt for His Highness Husein, Emir and Sherif of Mecca & King of the Hejaz. Frontispiece and title with Arabesque borders, 9 ACTUAL STAMPS affixed to frontispiece, 12 colour plates showing development of designs, folding appendix leaf; xii+22pp. *folio orig. printed boards, with Arabesque designs, corners bumped*, FIRST AND ONLY EDITION, Cairo, Survey of Egypt, Government Publications Office, 1918. The copy of D.C. Gray of 53 Montagu Square, London, sold with a Typed Letter to him from the Chief, Publications Office, Old Ismailia Palace, Cairo, 10/11/1919 informing him 'the price is £5/3/- and stock is running short rapidly'. Very good clean copy in orig. dustwrapper, (tear on front, further tears on back cover with upper portion missing). See WILSON, J.M. 'T.E Lawrence'. National Portrait Gallery Exhibition, 1988. No. 96.

£2950

Jeremy Wilson explained how the project emerged: 'After Hussein's declaration of independence in June 1916, Ottoman postage stamps could no longer be used in the Hejaz. Lawrence suggested that the issue of a new, distinctive series of stamps would be one way of publicising the emergence of a new nation. Over the coming months, the Arab Bureau and the Survey of Egypt collaborated on the project. The task of choosing suitable illustrations fell to Lawrence and Ronald Storrs'. Their objectives were to create designs that were original and distinctive from the Ottoman stamps and use for inspiration wording and ornament, which was as far as possible purely from Arab sources. So the designs of beautiful Arabesque ornament included details from Cairo mosques or leaves from Korans. Like map-making, this was the type of project that Lawrence relished and to which he applied himself whole-heartedly. He had hoped the different value stamps would each have a gum of a distinctive flavour, but when they came to be printed only a standard gummed paper was available. The first stamps were issued in October 1916.

This book describing how these stamps were produced is very scarce. The Imperial War Museum library catalogue states only 200 copies were printed, many of which were presented to libraries, government officials, military officers and institutions. Apart from the importance of the book because of Lawrence's involvement with the

project, the philatelist E.D Bacon [1860-1938] thought it was the first detailed book written on the production of a set of stamps by the persons involved. Sir Ernest Dowson [1876-1950] administrator and surveyor, became director-general of the Egyptian Survey in 1909. The First World War brought him many additional responsibilities, as the Survey had to compile and supply all the maps used by the Egyptian expeditionary force in the campaign against the Ottoman empire. His department was responsible for the production of the Hejaz stamps.

References:

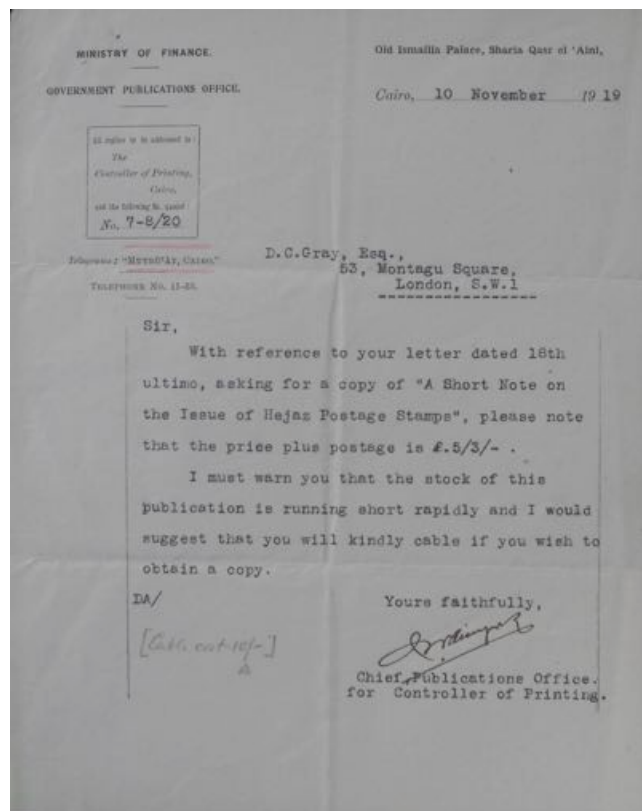
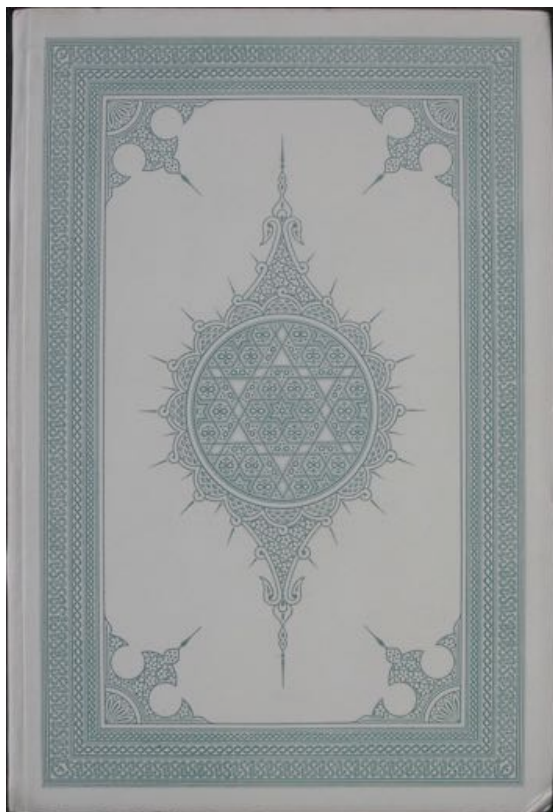
BACON, E.D. A Review, in *The London Philatelist*, vol. 28, Dec. 1919, pp. 271-271.

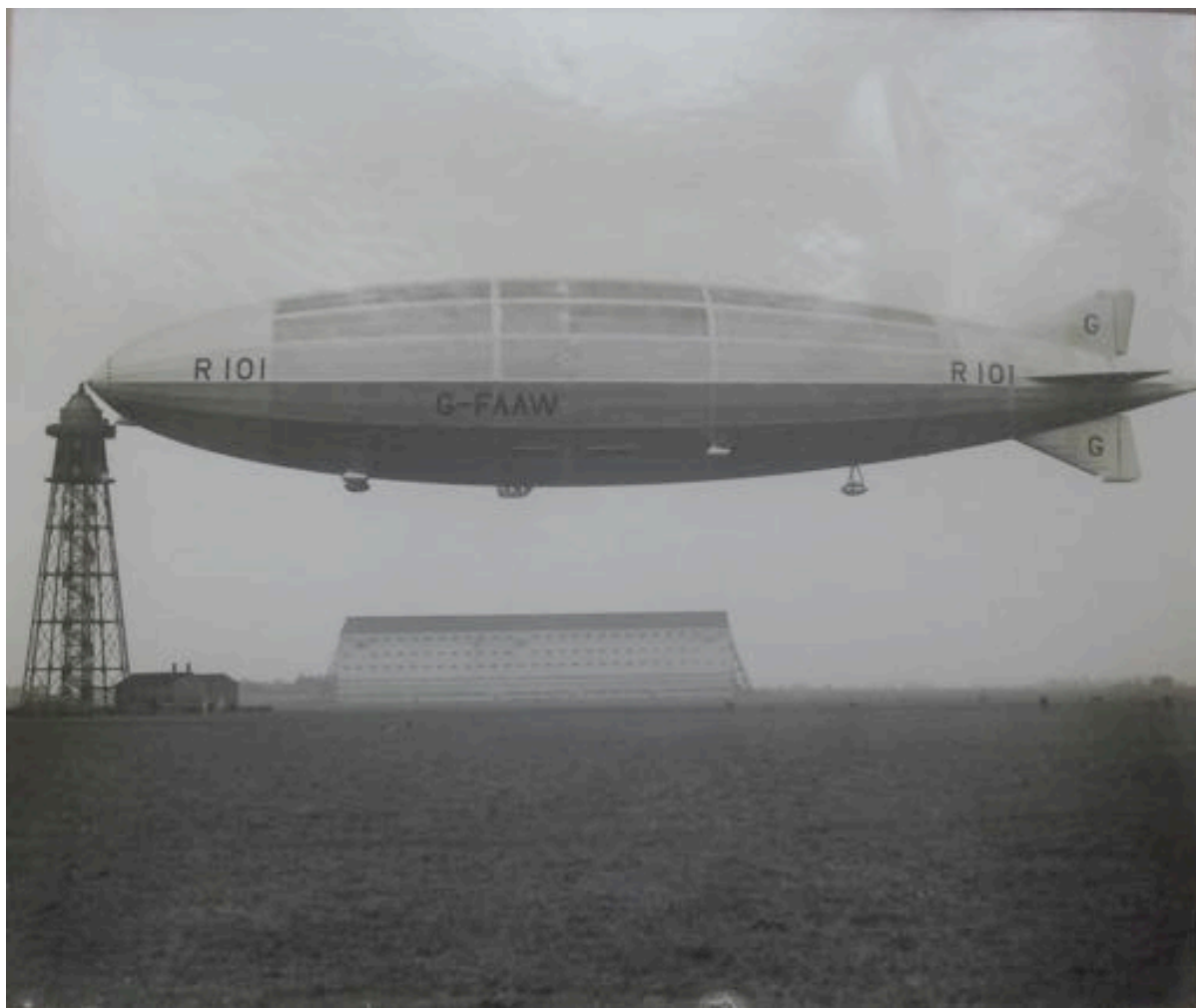
HAWORTH, W.B. and H. SARGENT. *The Postage Stamps of the Hejaz*. H.F. Johnson, 1922. 64 pp.

BEECH, D. R. Hejaz: The First Postage Stamps of 1916 and T.E. Lawrence (*The London Philatelist*, vol. 114, Nov. 2005. pp. 323-327.

BEECH, D. R. Hejaz: The First Postage Stamps of 1916 and T.E. Lawrence: Additional Information (*The London Philatelist*, vol. 116, March 2007. pp. 38-40.

LAWRENCE, A.W. (Ed.) *T. E. Lawrence, by His Friends*. 1937, pp. 135 & 591.





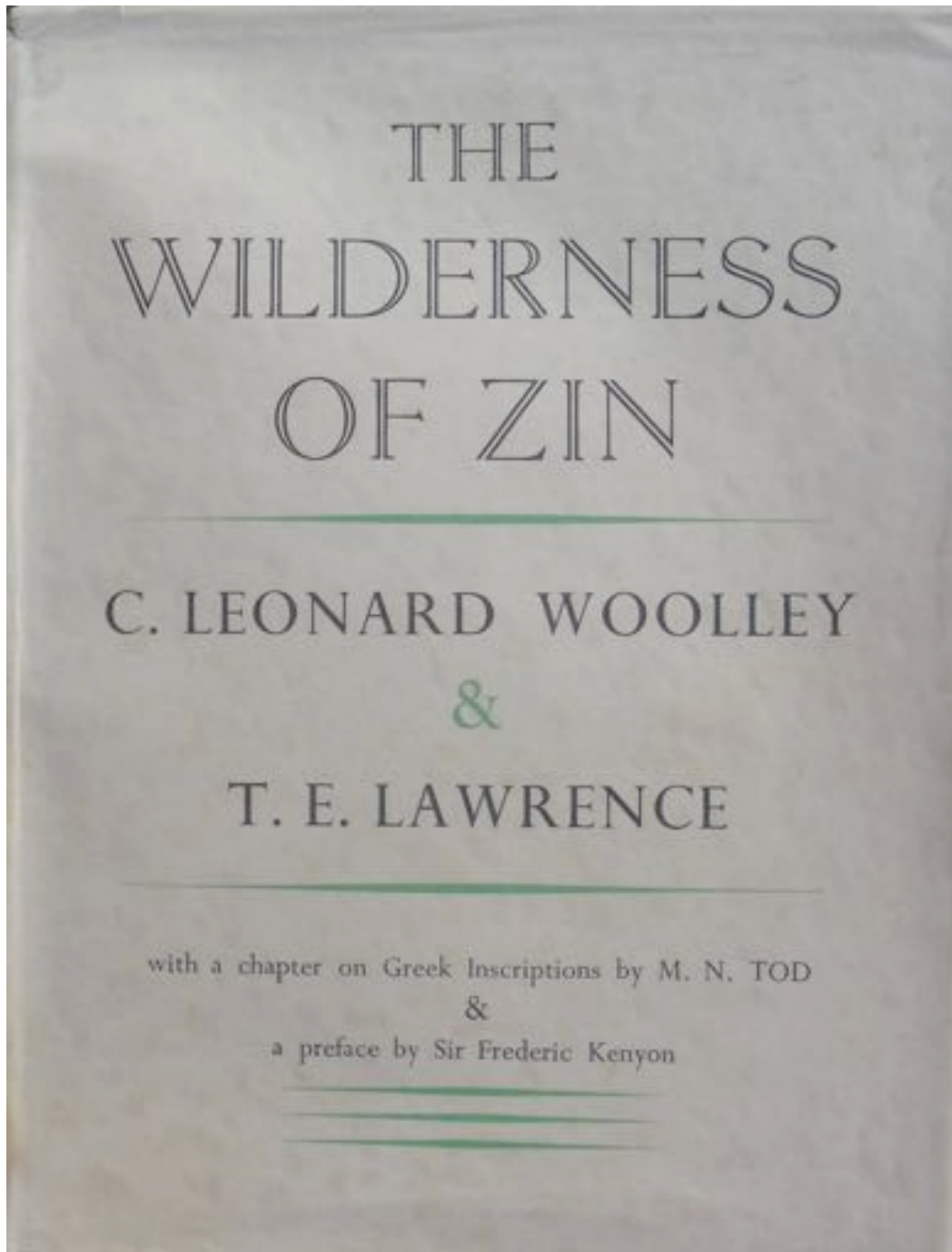
7. [T.E. LAWRENCE] AIRSHIP R101. ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPH of Airship R101 at mooring at RAF Cardington, Bedfordshire, with hanger in the background, *laid down, a little damage at base*, c. 1929-30. 9.5 x 11.25in £125

Airship R101 was one of two large prototype rigid airships for civilian passengers to be commissioned by the Air Ministry. The R101 was built under the direction of the Air Ministry, so was known as the Socialist airship, while the other R100 was built by a private company owned by Vickers hence its sobriquet, the Capitalist airship. Plans for these civil airships were first mooted as early as 1922, but Airship R101 was not completed until 1929. The first flight was made on 14 October. Further test flights followed revealing two major problems: the lift was not as great as had been predicted and there were problems with the condition of the fabric. In July 1930 the airship went back to the hanger for further modifications. The Imperial Conference of heads of state of the British Empire in London was scheduled for October. Lord Thomson, the Secretary of State for Air, wanted the return trial flight to Karachi to be completed before the conference ended, to demonstrate how the airship would improve communication around the Empire.

The flight set off with many dignitaries on board on 4 October and crashed to the ground in the early hours of 5 October near Beauvais in France, killing nearly all the passengers and crew including Lord Thomson and one of the designers Lt. Col. Vincent Richmond. This crash of the then largest air ship halted further development of the British airship programme and the R100 was broken up.

T.E. Lawrence had wanted the R101 to make a deviation from its course to India to fly over Ruba el Khali or the Empty Quarter of Arabia. He wrote to Lord Trenchard on 12 July 1929 requesting him to arrange this, adding "To go over the Empty Quarter will also be an enormous advertisement for them: it will mark an era in exploration. It will finish our knowledge of the earth. Nothing but an airship can do it, and I want it to be one of ours which gets the plum!".

See WILSON, J. Lawrence of Arabia. 1989. pp 855-56. 'Lawrence of Arabia and R101' in DIRIGIBLE. The Journal of the Airship & Balloon Museum. Vol. V No 1. R101 Special Edition.



8. **WOOLLEY, C.L. & LAWRENCE, T.E.:** Wilderness of Zin. (Introduction by Sir Frederic Kenyon). 2 maps, 40 plates of illus. and a further illus. in text, index; 166pp. *folio orig. cloth gilt*, Second English Edition, Jonathan Cape, 1936. Very good bright copy in price-clipped d.w with a few small tears. O'BRIEN A006. **£125**
Originally printed in 1915 by the Palestine Exploration Fund, this edition contains three additional plates and Lawrence's contributions are identified at the beginning.

9. **O'BRIEN, P.M.:** Supplement to T.E. Lawrence: A Bibliography. Index; 240pp. *4to orig. cloth*, 1st edit., New Castle, Delaware, 2008. Fine Copy. **£95**
This work is a supplement to the 2000 edition of O'Brien's bibliography of T.E. Lawrence and includes over 2500 new entries. It has an additional section listing relevant websites.