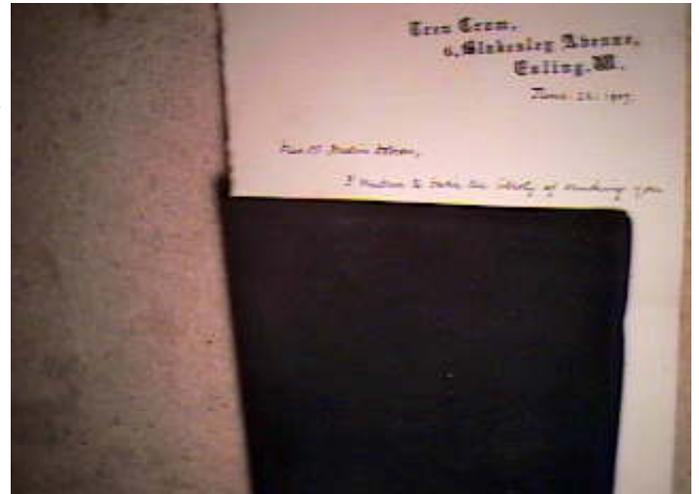


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# MY AUSTIN DOBSON COLLECTION

## FROM THE LIBRARY OF AUSTIN DOBSON

Dobson's copy of his own book, *Diary of John Evelyn*, London, 1905, Cassel & Co. Dobson received this book, along with an ALS from Hartley Carrick. My friend, Sandy Malcolm, saw this book at John Hart's booth at a recent London book fair (Feb.2003?) and bought it for me!



### From my Post to the RCB thread, Changing Names of Books.

I collect Austin Dobson's books, and, even with a bibliography of Dobson's "first editions", compiled by his son, Alban Dobson, my Dobson Collection is still a bibliographical maize.

I have Dobson's first publication in book form, *Vignettes in Rhyme*, published by Henry S. King & Co., London, 1873. In 1872, Dobson privately printed 30 copies of the pamphlet, *The Drama of the Doctor's Window*, no copies of which will supposedly ever be available for sale.

I also have the first American edition of *Vignettes in Rhyme*, Henry Holt & Co., New York, 1880. The poems for this edition were selected from *Vignettes in Rhyme*, 1873, and *Proverbs in Porcelain*, 1879.

I have the first edition of *At the Sign of the Lyre*, Henry Holt & Co, New York, 1885. This technically isn't a "first edition" because it consists of Dobson's poems previously published in England.

The first English edition of *At the Sign of the Lyre* was also published in 1885, by Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., London, but this edition contains poems that were not in the American edition bearing the same title.

Instead of the first English edition, I have the eighth English edition of *At the Sign of the Lyre*, Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., London, 1890. In the very back of this edition, I was surprised to find

title pages and half-title pages, dated MDCCCXC(1890), for Volume the First and Volume the Second of Poems on Several Occasions.

The following note was also included:

††"These titles and half-titles can, if desired, be substituted for the titles and half-titles of Old World Idylls and At the Sign of the Lyre".

As yet, I don't have the "first edition" of Old World Idylls, Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., London 1883, but I'm not too concerned because Alban Dobson says it is essentially a reprint of the 1880 American edition of Vignettes in Rhyme, which, if I recall correctly, is composed of poems selected from Vignettes in Rhyme, 1873, and Proverbs in Porcelain, 1879!

I must add that I have two copies of the tenth edition of Old World Idylls. This edition contains notes and two illustrations of the author's bookplates, which were not included in previous editions.

If I ever get a copy of the first English edition of At the Sign of the Lyre, 1885, I just might "tip in" the extra title pages and half-title pages of Poems on Several Occasions) in my 1890 editions of At the Sign of the Lyre and Old World Idylls.

Moreover, if I ever acquire the seventh edition of At the Sign of the Lyre, also published in 1890, the extra title pages included for Poems on Several Occasions are dated MDCCCLXXXIX(1889).

Just to confuse me more, the only "first edition" of Poems on Several Occasions that is listed in the Table of Contents page of Dobson's bibliography is the 1895 edition, a new edition revised and enlarged, and published by Dodd Mead & Co. in New York.

Alban Dobson further notes that Dodd Mead & Co. published Poems on Several Occasions in 1889 and reprinted it in 1891 and 1894. Currently, there is an 1892 edition listed on ebay. 1892?

Alban Dobson does not say that the 1889 American edition is the "first edition". I wonder why? ..... In 1889, Kegan Paul, Trench and Co., London, bound 25 copies of Volume the First and Volume the Second of Poems on Several Occasions; essentially, they "reprinted" Old World Idylls and At the Sign of the Lyre and replaced the title pages, half-title pages, and the binding!

.....Me thinks I'll pick an easier author to collect next time!

:-)

Jerry Morris,

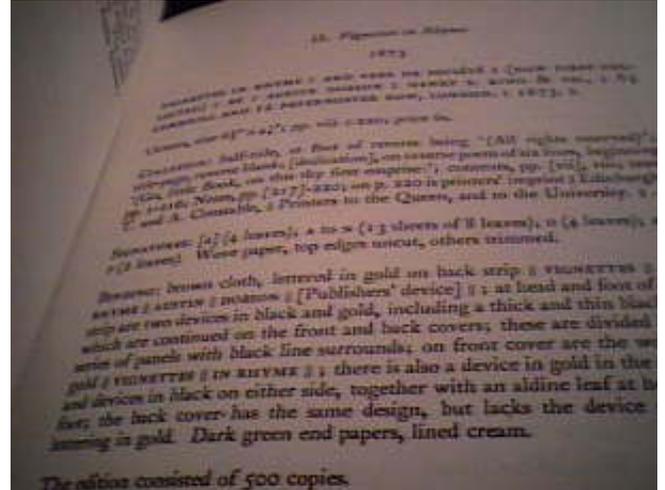
biblio sleuth

Posted 10/27/01 to the newsgroup, rec.collecting.books

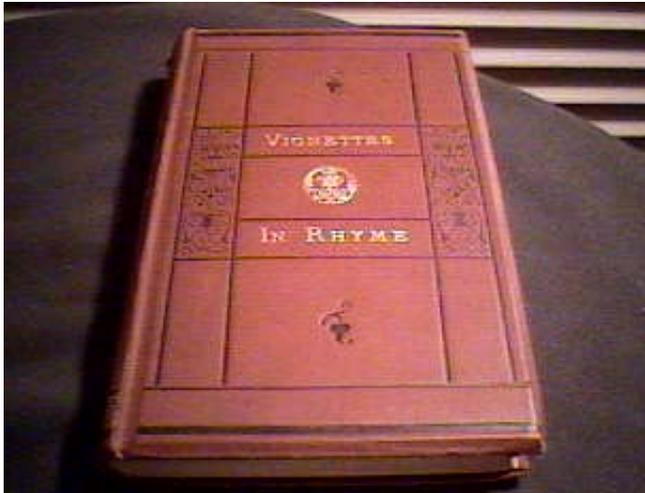
:-)

## Dobson, Alban A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE FIRST EDITIONS OF PUBLISHED AND PRIVATELY PRINTED BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS BY AUSTIN DOBSON

Burt Franklin, 1970 (1925) New York. An impressive bibliography covering sixty two of Austin Dobson's first editions (see note). All the information on the title page of a first edition is listed in the first section. Next, the size, number of pages and price of the book is listed, followed by an in-depth collation, which includes blank pages. The signatures are described as is the binding. Finally, the number of copies printed is listed as well as whether there is a copy in the British Museum. (Note: Of these sixty two books, some are really "first thus" because they are technically reprints which contain new material).



### Dobson, Austin. VIGNETTES IN RHYME (England)

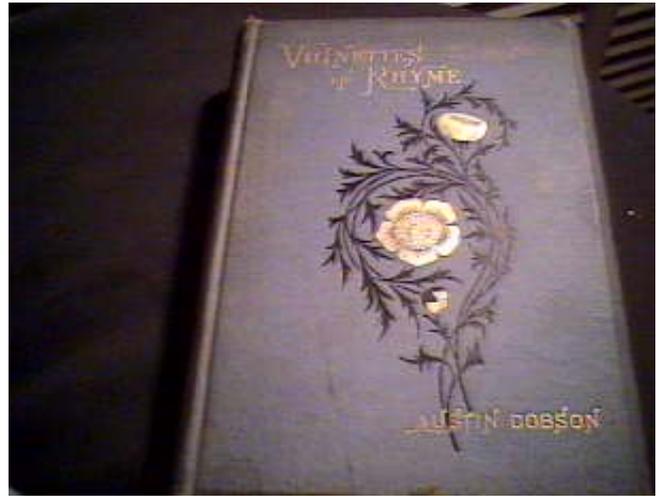


Henry S. King & Co., London. 1873. Dobson, 3. 500 copies printed. This book is more than likely the earliest work by Dobson that I will obtain, and the first edition by Dobson in book form. In 1872, Dobson printed, for private circulation only, not more than 30 copies of a 24-page pamphlet, titled Concerning the Drama of the Doctor's Window. This was his first publication in book or pamphlet form and its title page served as its front cover. Alban Dobson notes two copies in private libraries, one of which was withdrawn at auction and sold to Alban

Dobson. The author states that the balance of copies were in the hands of Mrs. Austin Dobson and were not for sale.

### Dobson, Austin. VIGNETTES IN RHYME (America)

Henry Holt, 1880, New York. Dobson,10. 1000 copies printed. First edition of any of Dobson's works published in America, although technically not a first edition itself; The selected poems appeared previously either in *Vignettes in Rhyme* (1873) or *Proverbes in Porcelain* (1877). Water stain on top of front cover and text.



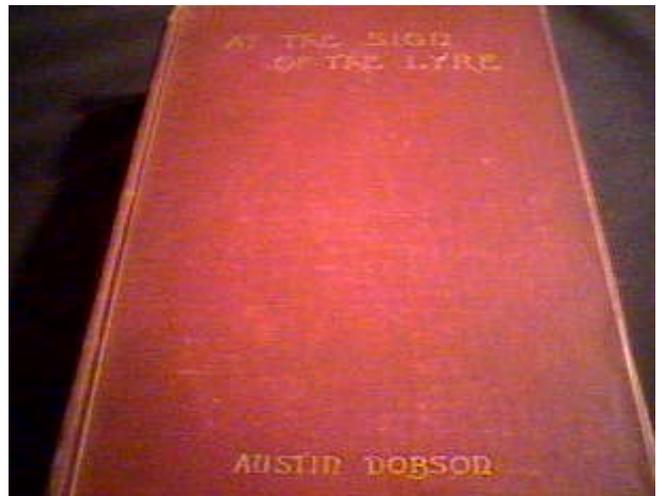
### **Dobson, Austin. THOMAS BEWICK AND HIS PUPILS**



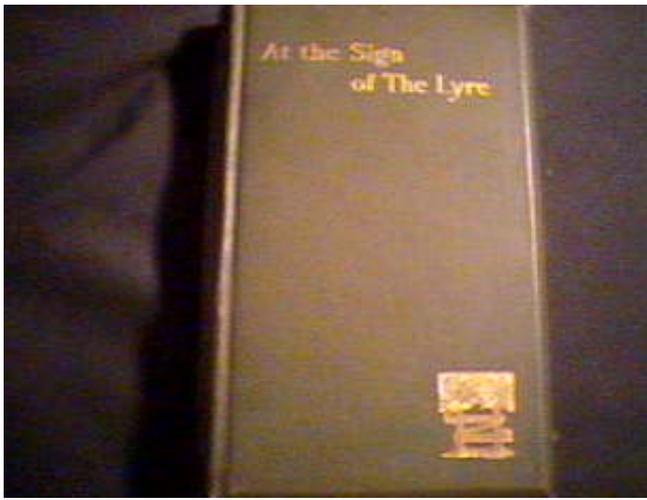
Chatto and Windus, 1884. London. Dobson,17. 2500 copies printed. Book is split in the middle and front cover with spine backing is detached. This book was not sewed; it was stapled. Should be a fun rebinding job.

### **Dobson, Austin. AT THE SIGN OF THE LYRE (America)**

Henry Holt and Company, 1885. New York. Dobson,19. 1250 copies printed.



### **Dobson, Austin. AT THE SIGN OF THE LYRE (ENGLAND)**

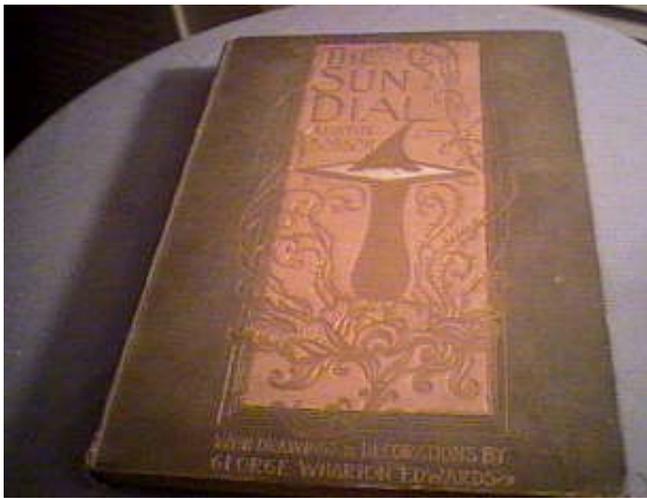


Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. 1890 (1885) 8th edition. Dobson, 21, mentions the alternative title pages and half-title pages for Poems on Several Occasions which are included at the end of this volume.

**Dobson, Austin. EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ESSAYS**

Boston, 1888. Willard Small. Selected and annotated by Austin Dobson. Not listed in Dobson bibliography.

**Dobson, Austin. THE SUN DIAL**



New

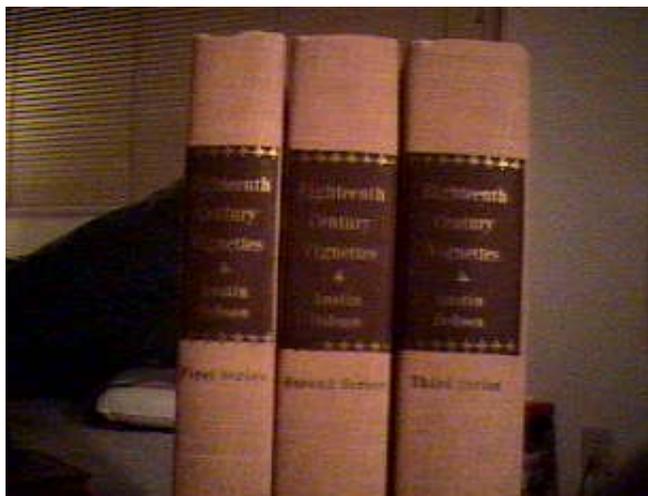


York, 1890. Dodd, Mead & Company. Dobson, 27, 28. Drawings and decorations by George Wharton Edwards to go along with Dobson's poem. This is the ordinary edition, the collation of which, according to Mr. Murray, doesn't differ from the limited edition of

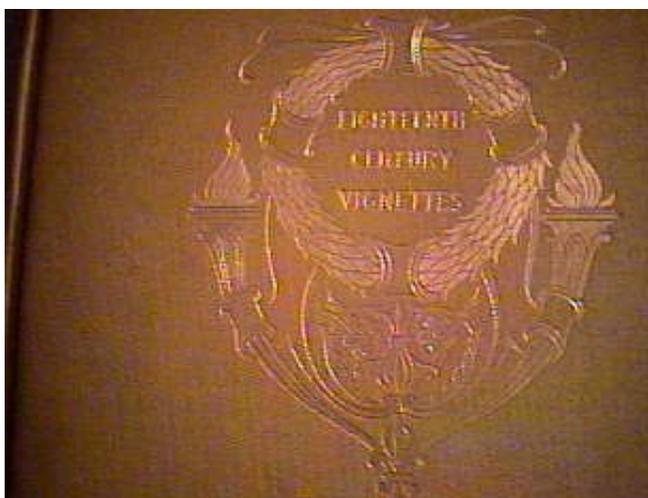
50 copies. Unknown as to how many copies of this edition were printed, but there is only one copy listed on the web. The compiler of Dobson's bibliography didn't even have a copy! This edition was supposedly issued in a printed wrapper. A beautiful book, almost 12" tall, with impressive illustrations on heavy paper.

**Dobson, Austin EIGHTEENTH CENTURY VIGNETTES, FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD SERIES**

New York,1968 (1892,1894,1896). Benjamin Blom.  
I will acquire the three first editions as well.



### **Dobson, Austin. EIGHTEENTH CENTURY VIGNETTES (Third Series)**

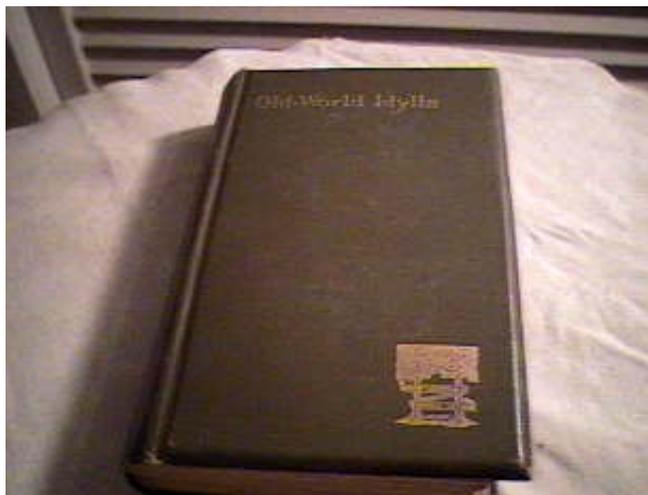


New York,1896. Dodd, Mead and Company.  
Dobson,48. Alban Dobson provides all of the  
information for the English edition published by  
Chatto & Windus. All he says about the first  
American edition is that it was published in America  
in citron coloured cloth and in pink cloth with a white  
back. Another Dobson book from mardiv.

### **Dobson, Austin. OLD-WORLD IDYLLS**

London,1890(1883). Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. Tenth  
edition. Dobson,16. "The tenth and subsequent  
editions contain some notes at the end not in the  
earlier editions, as well as two illustrations of the  
author's bookplates". I have two copies of this edition.

### **Dobson, Austin, editor. PLAYS AND POEMS OF OLIVER GOLDSMITH**





London,1891. J.M.Dent And Co. Very elaborate Bookplate of Ira Hutchinson Brainard by "EDF" (E.D. French) dated 1902.

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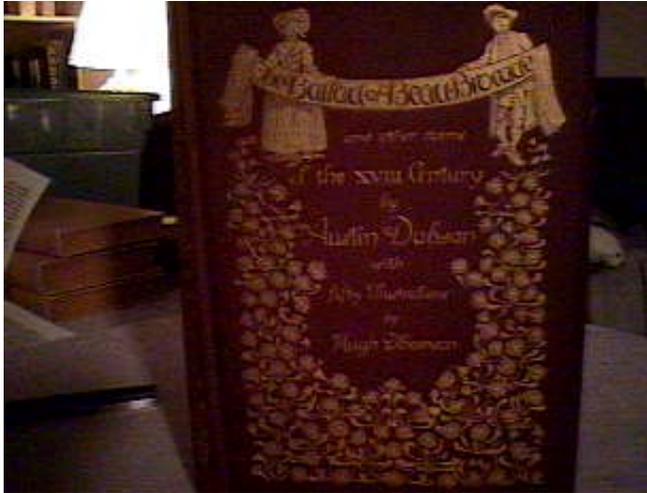
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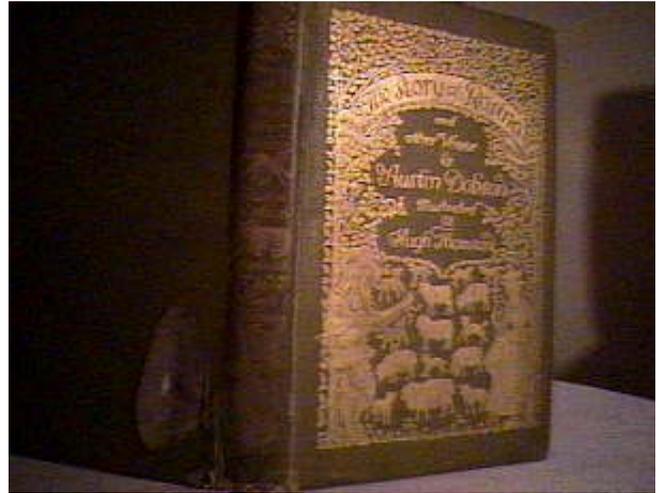
## Dobson, Austin. BALLAD OF BEAU BROCADE



London, 1892. Kegan Paul, Trench & Trubner. 1st ed. Dobson, 37. With 50 illustrations by Hugh Thomson. 2500 copies printed

## Dobson, Austin. STORY OF ROSINA

New York, 1895. Dodd, Mead & Co. 1st ed. Dobson, 43. 9000 copies printed. Damaged in handling by the Post Office. Rear cover gouged and binding torn from backing. Needs to be reseeded, recased, and rear cover replaced.



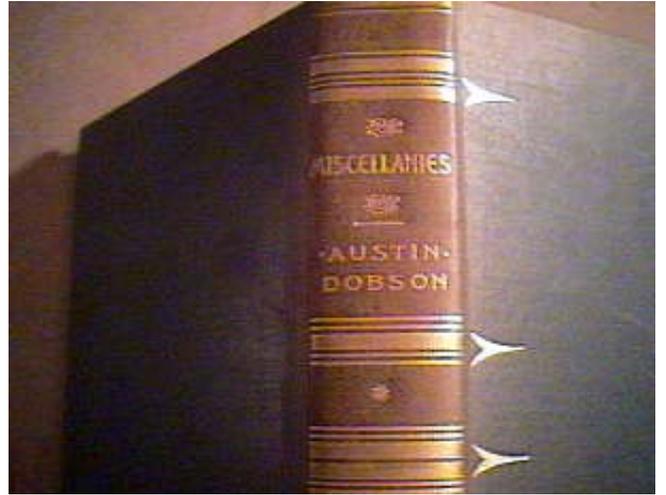
## Dobson, Austin. PROVERBS IN PORCELAIN



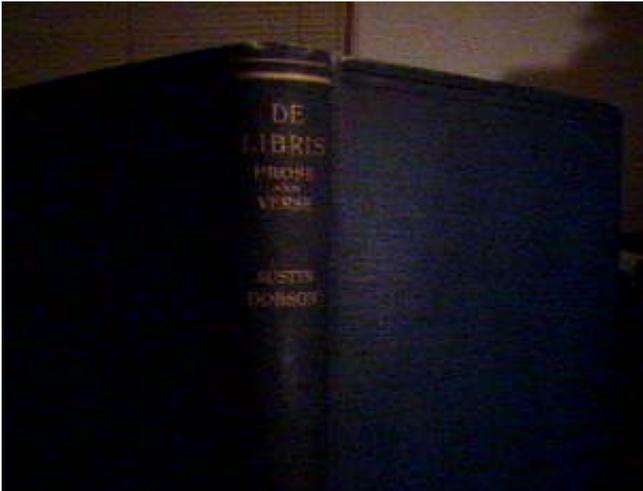
London, 1905 (1893). Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Beautiful binding. Dobson, 40. A later edition described in the bibliography.

## Dobson, Austin. MISCELLANIES (First Series)

New York, 1898. Dodd, Mead, and Company.  
Dobson, 54. Acquired from ebayer, mardiv.



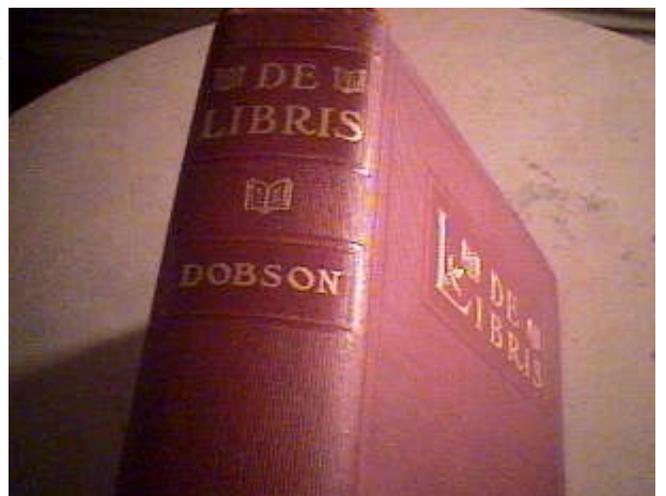
## Dobson, Austin. DE LIBRIS



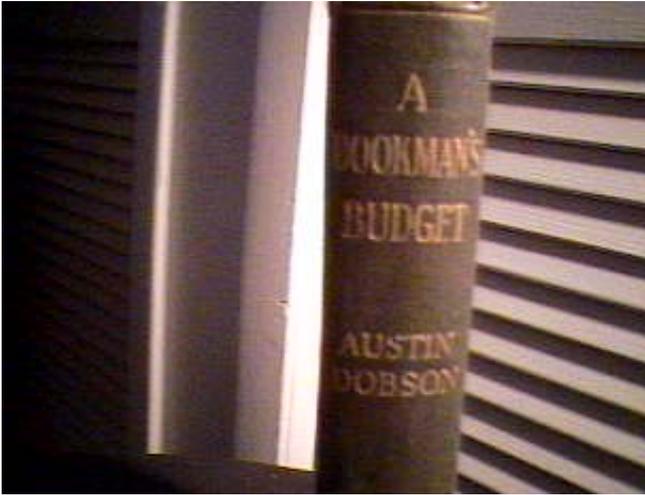
London, 1908. Macmillan & Co. Prose and Verse. 1st ed. Dobson (70) says 1500 copies of this edition were printed. Note: Macmillan issued the First American Edition in 1908 on a stouter paper and in a red binding.

## Dobson, Austin. DE LIBRIS

New York, 1908. Macmillan Company. Dobson, 71.  
First American Edition. Red cover very bright. One of several Dobson books acquired from ebay seller, mardiv. He is "good people"!



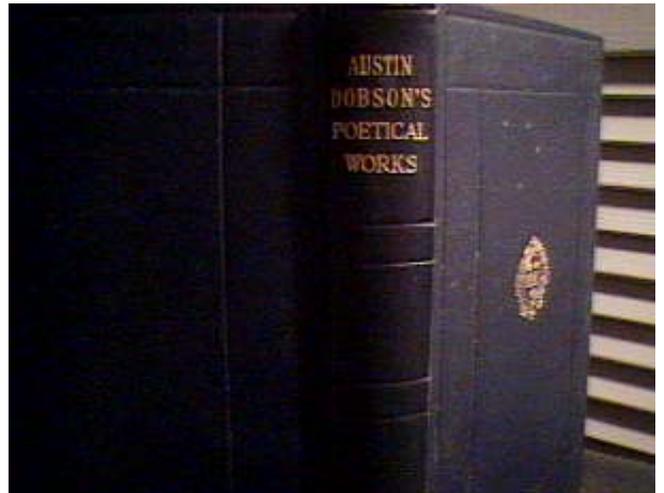
## Dobson, Austin. **A BOOKMAN'S BUDGET**



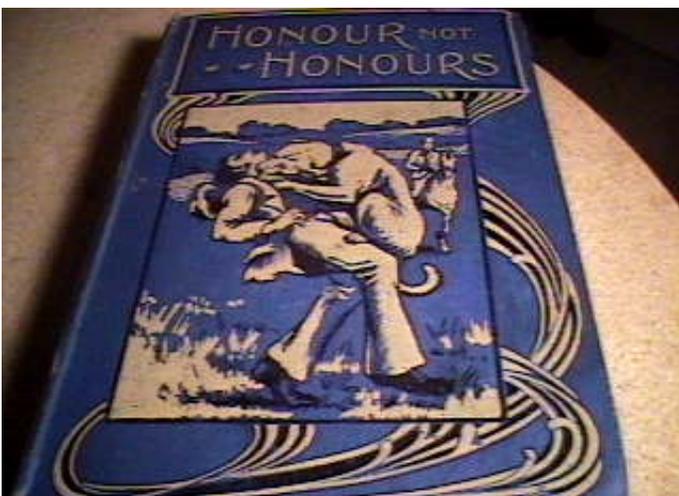
Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1917. London. Dobson,83. 2000 copies printed. My first Austin Dobson book, bought in the late 80s in England for L3.50. Contains anecdotes, poems and essays on books, authors and book collecting.

## Dobson, Austin. **COMPLETE POETICAL WORKS OF AUSTIN DOBSON**

Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1923. London. Dobson,85. Three different commemorative editions published in 1923, this one being the cheapest and consisting of 5940 copies printed. Originally issued in yellow-paper dust wrapper.



## Mrs. Austin Dobson. **HONOUR NOT HONOURS**



London,n.d. Religious Tract Society. Dobson's wife is identified on the title page as the author of the novel, Cherryburn. I don't know if these novels were published before or after the death of Austin Dobson.

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