RICHARD V. WELLS

Secret Societies

February 2026

1 **(LUCHET, Marquis de. Jean Pierre Louis de La Roche du Maine)** Essai sur la Secte des Illumines. Paris. 1789.

£425.00

8vo (198 x 126). pp, xxxii, 256. Woodcut head piece to p,1. Ms name of author added to title page. Browning particularly on first few leaves. Gilt all edges. Contemporary marbled calf with gilt decorated border to both boards. Gilt decorated spine with black and gilt title label. Small loss to tips of spine, boards scuffed, edges rubbed and corners bumped. Luchet (1740-1792) was a French officer of cavalry, journalist, impresario and librarian. In his 'Essai sur la Secte des Illumines', Luchet denounces the leaders of the Bavarian Illuminati whom he accused of controlling Freemasonry, generally in Europe, and specifically in France.

2 **BERTOLDI, Giuseppe.** Memoirs of the Secret Societies of the South of Italy, Particularly the Carbonari. Translated from the Original Ms. London. John Murray. 1821. (First edition).

£395.00

(231 x 141). pp, xv, (1), 235, (1). Half-title, lithographed frontspiece, fine folding lithographed view of a meeting of the Carbonari, by Hullmandel, six folding litho copies of original documents and four lithographed plates of uniforms and portraits all as called for. Inserted slip at rear directing the placing of plates. All edges uncut. Original blue paper covered boards with edges and corners bumped and worn. Rebacked. Not published in Italy until 1904.