TEMPLE
RARE BOOKS OF OXFORD

Urania's Mirror, or a View of the Heavens

Hall, Sidney

Sold

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REF: 131

Description

Thirty-two (complete) hand coloured cards in the original box. Cards are tissue backed, with one or two spots of foxing, but generally bright and clean. Box is slightly rubbed and bumped to corners and edges, it has professional repairs to its internal corners, illustration to front of box is slightly dulled, with an old ring mark towards head and a couple of marks slightly affecting image, but much better than is usually found. The second issue, with the stars in the adjacent constellations added. Hingley notes that they are "one of the most charming and physically attractive of the many aids to astronomical self-instruction produced in the early nineteenth century ... each [card] is pierced with holes corresponding in size to the magnitudes of the brightest stars. Thus when held up to the light they give quite a realistic representation of the constellation pattern". Hingley also identified the author, see Hingley, P.D. Journal of the British Astronomical Association, Volume 104, 1994, pages 238-9

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