

WD9014863

Ferns of Great Britain and Ireland SOLD/OUT OF STOCK

£520.00

W: 37 cm (14 9/16")
H: 56 cm (22 1/16")
D: 4 cm (1 9/16")

Three very decorative plates from *Ferns of Great Britain and Ireland*.

Ferns of Great Britain and Ireland, published in 1855, was a seminal work for the progress of botany and naturalism.

The plates were printed by Henry Bradbury. Bradbury (1829-60) began nature printing whilst studying in Vienna in 1850.

The process involved impressing a natural object, such as a leaf, into a lead plate. This plate could then be used to print impressions, but more often a copper replica was made as it was less likely to degenerate than lead. This copper replica was made through an electrotyping method.

Bradbury claimed he invented this new method, but Alois Auer hotly disputed this and said he was the true inventor.

Whoever credit is due to, this new process was a huge leap forward for naturalists. It meant that direct copies could be taken from nature and they didn't have to rely on artist's hand-drawings.

This group comprises three of Bradbury's printed ferns. The book was written by Thomas Moore (1821-87) who was the Curator of the Chelsea Physic Garden. The work was edited by the botanist John Lindley (1799-1865) and published by Bradbury & Evans, London.

These prints are presented in oak-stained and waxed wooden frames.

Priced individually.

Materials & Techniques: Printed
Condition: Good
Period: 19th Cent

