

# KENNY'S



LADY GREGORY

Catalogue No: KLADG

**GREGORY (Isabella Augusta, née Persse), LADY. The Kiltartan Wonder Book.**

Dublin: Maunsel & Co. Ltd, 1911. With 8 color plates by Margaret Gregory. Square 8vo, [vii] 105pp with remnants of 4 rusted paper clips marking pp 33/37, 78/81, 83/87 and 102/105; pictorial limp blue cloth boards designed by M. Gregory, perhaps a trial binding (see below). Except for sun fading along the spine and inner margins of both covers, this is a fine copy overall, the binding cloth overlapping the edges on all sides, as if put on to do a sample cover while waiting for finished copies from the bindery.

First edition. The author's own working copy of *The Kiltartan Wonder Book*, inscribed by her in ink on its half-title ("A Gregory own copy"), with a list of story titles (perhaps for a second volume of Irish fairy tales) written in pencil verso the dedication page and with several other marginal notes in her hand. Also includes a typed page of additional text (with several inked corrections) to be inserted at p 35 and another holograph text in ink laid in at p 85; also including the COMPLETE SET OF ORIGINAL INK AND WATERCOLOR DRAWINGS for the 8 color plates (each sheet measuring 6-1/4 x 4-7/8 inches or larger); also with the ink drawing for the binding and with 6 partial monotypes (all but one with color) after the same design; also 5 preliminary studies in watercolor and ink for the frontispiece and plates at pp 10 and 76. A close associate of W. B. Yeats, Lady Gregory explains in a letterpress note at the end of this volume that these Irish stories are published here almost exactly as they were told to her by different people. The word "Kiltartan" was her own invention, representing the folk-history and dialect speech of the country people. She and Yeats opened the Abbey Theatre in Dublin 1904 where she remained its director for the rest of her life.

Also included is a PRESENTATION COPY of the companion volume *The Golden Apple* (London: John Murray, 1916), inscribed June 3, 1919 by Lady Gregory "affectionately" in ink on the front free endpaper to Iseult Gonne, Maude Gonne's daughter with Lucien Millevoeye; Maud Gonne was the love of W. B. Yeats' life, to whom he proposed marriage but who rejected him (Maud and Millevoeye had a son who died young, and they attempted to recreate the son by making love one more time near the tomb of the deceased boy: Iseult was the result). With 8 color plates by Margaret Gregory, London: John Murray, 1916. Square 8vo, vii 107pp; pictorial green cloth also designed by the illustrator. First edition, dedicated to George Bernard Shaw ("the gentlest of my friends"). This "play for Kiltartan children" was first staged at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. With two complete sets (one trimmed) of color proofs for the 8 illustrations; also, two typed letters concerning the preparations for printing the colored illustrations: one from George Roberts (of Maunsel & Co, Dublin), Feb. 4, 1915, who ultimately did not publish this title, and the other from publisher John Murray, Nov. 29, 1915 which accompanied these proofs. Along with these proofs is one pencil study for the illustration "Come back to me..." (at p 86) plus 11 partially developed pencil sketches and one page of ink jottings for illustrating Bible stories: Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, Lot's wife turning back her head, Goliath the Giant, &c. Kept together as an archive in one album.

. **Order No. 223443/**

**€16,950**

