

“One of the most important events to occur in the last hundred and ten years was the publication of Charles Darwin’s on the Origin of Species” (John Angus Campbell).

The fifth edition of *“the most important biological book ever written”*.

Séduisant exemplaire conservé dans sa reliure d’origine, tel que paru.

DARWIN, Charles. ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION, OR THE PRESERVATION OF FAVOURED RACES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

London, John Murray, 1869.

In-8 de XXIII et 596 pp.

Percaline verte de l’éditeur, filets à froid encadrant les plats, dos lisse, titre doré.

Reliure de l’époque.

191 x 126 mm.

FIFTH EDITION OF "THE MOST IMPORTANT BIOLOGICAL BOOK EVER WRITTEN".

Freeman, 387.

“The fifth edition of 1869 was of 2,000 copies and was again much revised. It is in this one that Darwin used the expression 'survival of the fittest', Herbert Spencer's term, for the first time; it appears first in the heading of Chapter IV. In the footnote on page xxii, the name D'Alton, which occurs twice, should read Dalton both times, as it does in the fourth edition, but the second one has become Dalton. It remains thus until the thirty-ninth thousand of 1890, but in the forty-first of 1891, which was reset, Francis Darwin altered the first to Dalton, so that there were then two mistakes. Modern editions continue to have either D'Alton/Dalton or Dalton/Dalton. The format of this edition changes to octavo in eights; the cases, of which there are four conspicuous variants, are entirely new, and the spine title is reduced to Origin of species. Inserted advertisements, dated September 1868, are usually present.

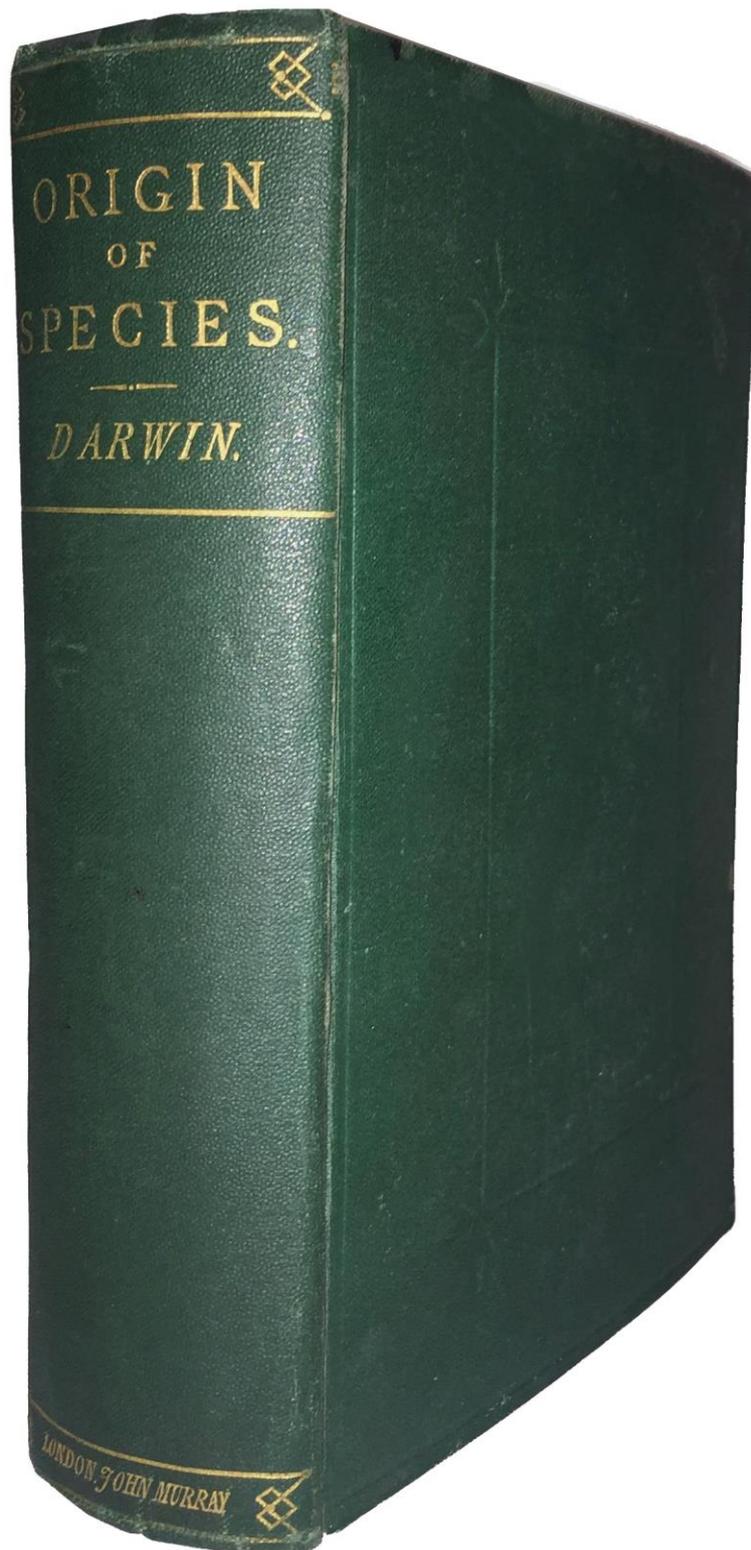
“The Origin was important not only for the new fields of research which it opened in the natural sciences, but for the marked influence which it had on such diverse fields as sociology, economics, philosophy, anthropology and theology. The advent of Darwin’s book has justly been compared in its epoch-making significance with the French Revolution and the American Civil War. On the Origin of Species brought to an end an entire Anglo-American tradition in the relationship between science and religion and saw the birth of radically altered views of the proper relationship between man, the physical universe and God” (John Angus Campbell).

Perhaps the most readable and accessible of the great works of scientific imagination, The Origin of Species sold out on the day it was published in 1859. Theologians quickly labeled Charles Darwin the most dangerous man in England, and, as the Saturday Review noted, the uproar over the book quickly "passed beyond the bounds of the study and lecture-room into the drawing-room and the public street."

Yet, after reading it, Darwin's friend and colleague T. H. Huxley had a different reaction: "How extremely stupid not to have thought of that."

Based largely on Darwin's experience as a naturalist while on a five-year voyage aboard H.M.S. Beagle, The Origin of Species set forth a theory of evolution and natural selection that challenged contemporary beliefs about divine providence and the immutability of species.

“The outstanding difficulty was to discover the means by which the infinite variety of living organisms could have been produced within the limits of geological time. In accomplishing this Darwin not only drew an entirely new picture of the workings of organic nature; he revolutionized our methods of thinking and our outlook on the natural order of things” (PMM).



**SEDUISANT EXEMPLAIRE CONSERVE DANS SA RELIURE D'ORIGINE, TEL QUE PARU.
A NICE COPY KEPT IN ITS CONTEMPORARY BINDING.**

Provenance : ex-libris manuscrit sur le faux-titre daté de 1871.

5 000 €