

Library. A third would certainly be Mr Turnbull, who has by my count as of today, 22 forgeries and 7 piracies, together with various private printings. These three gentlemen then, Viscount Esher, Halsey, and Turnbull, are to me a separate group. I have no evidence that any one of them knew Wise, but they all had substantial holdings, and they had all collected these books, along with the others I have mentioned, before the great exposure in 1934.

Standing apart from all these is one other collector who must not go unmentioned, and this is the late Sir Maurice Pariser, a Councilman of Manchester, who I suppose knew nothing about Wise until the year 1934, but upon the publication of the *Enquiry* in that year, then and there decided he would collect nothing but Wise; such therefore was his passion from 1934 onwards, and it was a passion that knew no bounds. I visited Sir Maurice several times in Manchester, and was always much impressed as he showed me one thing or another. One time he pulled out no fewer than 8 copies of Wise's catalogue of Swinburne—eight because each copy was inscribed to a different person, and so he was there in effect collecting signatures. Sir Maurice suffered several severe heart attacks in late 1966 and early 1967, so severe that he most reluctantly decided that he would have to stop collecting Wise and to put all of his books up for auction at Sotheby's as he did in that great sale of December 4th and 5th of 1967. It was my good fortune again to attend that sale along with Sir Maurice and Lady Pariser and it was a magnificent show indeed. Sotheby's, and John Carter particularly, who as you know is now adviser and associate in the firm, issued a very handsome catalogue for this two-day event, along with other Memorabilia. Sir Maurice had practically all the forgeries, all the piracies, all the private printings, many of them in multiple copies, plus something like 4,000 letters back and forth to Wise from various individuals. All that correspondence and all of the more 'desirable' printings were seized by Texas in further demonstration of its intent to remain forever the principal depository of all bibliographical chicanery. Well now, what does Mr Turnbull have? As I have intimated already he falls short of a complete collection but I must compliment his success. If any individual set out now or at any time in retrospect, knowing all the facts as we now know them, to assemble those forgeries or piracies which would illustrate one facet or another of Wise's malevolent career, one could hardly do better than what Mr Turnbull has done—and done almost by sheer chance, for I was astonished to find that every different variety is represented here by at least one specimen. Proceeding more or less in chronological order, I perhaps ought to start with Wise's own little pamphlet—it's the one legitimate and only legitimate publication of the 401 publications that he ever