

John Johnson Collection: pre-1960 ephemera

John Leighton

This section has not been catalogued or digitised.

Box 1

Biographical
Bank Notes
Receipts
Bill-heads
Bookplates
Design for Medallions
Designs Original Miscellaneous

Box 2 [2a]

Initial Letters and Tails Pieces
Paper Splitting
Title Pages and Printed Cover Designs
Trade Cards and Advertisements
Stationery
Miscellaneous

Box 2 [2b]

Binding:
Designs cut in Brass

Box 3 [3a]

Binding:
Designs cut in Brass continued

Box 3 [3b]

Designs drawn for binding

Box 4

Various items including booklets, typescript for memoir, drawings – all needs indexing

No Box 5

Box 6

Leighton Bros. misc

Stockbooks

Three stock books of designs by Leighton Bros

Great Exhibition shield

[Extract from [The John Johnson Collection: catalogue of an exhibition](#)]. The shield was exhibit 54.

The Collection contains many of the working papers of the famous designer of nineteenth-century publishers' bindings, John Leighton. This design for the Great Exhibition Commemoration Shield is shown along with a copy of the shield incorporated into a binding. The explanation of the design reads:

The world encircled by the proclamation of the Exhibition & surrounded by the peaceful arts of all nations. RAW MATERIAL—Miner. Planter (picking cotton). Shepherd. MANUFACTURES—Weaver. Designer. Potter. COMMERCE—Merchant. Retailer. Export Trader. The shield is divided into compartments by the caduceus (the symbol of peace & concord) also the heraldic types of the United Kingdom. The whole is bordered by a wreath inscribed with the names of those great men of all nations who have aided manufactures.

The metal plaque in the binding is inscribed, 'Published as the Act Directs by Henry Elkington. 20 February 1851.' Elkington's firm worked the shield in various metals. The binding covers only a guard-book, in which are mounted this design, a rough drawing for the design, and an engraving of it by H. Leighton. The decorated end-papers are by Owen Jones.